

William Clegg  
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ONE PENNY.

## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE event of the week, before which all others fall into utter insignificance, is the seizure of the Confederate Commissioners on board the British mail steamer Trent, by a United States' cruiser. For a week it has been almost the only subject of conversation, and when the early dispatches were first read, the public mind was so inflamed, that nothing less than a declaration of war at once was thought of. This feeling was fanned by one or two of the "sensation" order of journals, and the centres of trade and commerce were much excited. The more respectable organs of opinion came to the rescue to calm the passion of the hour, and they have, in a great measure, succeeded. The matter is now in the hands of the Government, who, acting on the advice of the law officers of the Crown, have asked the American Government for an apology and reparation. It is generally admitted that Captain

Wilks, of the San Jacinto, did wrong in boarding a neutral vessel and seizing upon any portion of what he considered its contraband cargo; if he considered that the vessel in question carried what was held to be contraband of war in violation of the maritime code as applied to neutral ships, his duty plainly was to take the vessel so seized into a Federal port and subject the matter to the consideration and adjudication of a competent tribunal. In this matter he acted himself as the sole judge, hence he did wrong, and his Government is called upon either to make reparation or take the alternative of war. Such in substance we understand, is the Government ultimatum which left this country for Washington in the Cunard liner on Saturday last. In the meantime the public feeling has toned down, as it appears that though the American Captain acted precipitately he had some show of right on his side, and might have gone the length of seizing the vessel and carrying her into a port in perfect harmony with the *dicta* of the learned doctors on

international law, and in accordance with the express provisions of the Queen's proclamation. He chose the rasher, though to the proprietors of the mail steamer the lesser inconvenience of seizing the alleged "contraband" and letting the vessel off, and has got himself and his Government into a mess. We scarcely think war can come out of it, but that suitable atonement will be made, and harmony restored between the two Governments. We have already alluded to the question involved in the seizure in a special article, and need not further allude to it here.

With respect to the American Civil war, out of which the unfortunate incident "just alluded to" has sprung, some interesting particulars are to hand by the late steamer. The particulars of the attack on the forts of Port Royal have been received, and the expedition, as far as capturing these strongholds, and effecting a landing, has been as successful as could be desired. The forts are now in the hands of the Federals,



and a force of 15,000 soldiers has been landed to make good the footing thus obtained. Reinforcements are being forthwith sent in the same direction, and, from all indications, as soon as the invading force is strengthened, an onslaught will be made from Savannah and Charleston. It is reported that a large supply of cotton fell into the hands of the Federalists at Beaufort and Port Royal, and that, while the whites had fled, the blacks were crowding into the Federal camp, and seemed much pleased at the advent of what they termed the "Yankees." Great consternation prevailed throughout both South Carolina and Georgia.

There is little new respecting the movements of the two armies on the Potomac; but fresh successes for the North are reported from Western Virginia and Kentucky. A rising of Unionists is also reported in East Tennessee. Matters are quieter in Missouri, though far from being satisfactory. Gen. Halleck has assumed the command of the army in this State.

The latest intelligence from New York, coming down to the evening of the 20th ult., puts us in possession of the view taken in that city of the capture of Messrs. Slidell and Mason, which it is not surprising to find is that the capture is legal. The journals are filled with legal quotations and precedents of the acts of our Government, to prove that the seizure is no breach of international law; that the Trent was liable to seizure for carrying rebel dispatches (a fact which they overlook was not ascertained by the American captain); and they urge that Commander Wilks should be promoted for his spirited conduct. If, therefore, the press is powerful enough to sway the Government, the refusal of our demand for redress, and consequent war, appears certain. But there is a prospect of a happier termination of the dispute, if it be true, as stated by the *New York Times*, that Lord Lyons, has expressed an opinion—which he would hardly do except on good grounds—that Messrs. Slidell and Mason will be given up to our Government. The Commissioners are confined in Fort Warren.

The subject of the seizure has been the occasion of much comment in the Parisian journals, the greater portion of which, however, go decidedly against the American view of the subject, and in favour of the decision of our law advisers. The financial movement so pompously announced a fortnight ago, has so far resulted in no definite conclusion, nor is it likely to end in much, as the Court and the leading Imperialists are dead against any reform. The abolition of the torniquets or turnstiles at the Bourse is so far the only achievement of the Government, while press prosecutions for writing too freely on public matters since M. Fould's acceptance of office, have constituted the order of the day.

The only notable incident from Italy is the reappearance of Garibaldi at Turin, and the assurance given by Ricasoli in the Italian Parliament that the French troops would co-operate with the Italians in putting down brigandage on the frontiers of the Papal States. The Lieutenant of Sicily is to be abolished.

Our Government, it is said, has received information of the agreement of Mexico to a convention by which our requirements are, one and all, fully conceded. Sir Charles Wyke has been able to negotiate and conclude terms by which full satisfaction is given to us. We are to have compensation for outrages, the repayment of money stolen, and the fulfilment of the engagements which the Mexican Government has, by treaty, stipulated towards the bond-holders. This anticipatory step of the Mexican Government will, however, not affect the measures which the allies have taken for enforcing their respective rights; but if we can obtain what we demand without having recourse to physical force so much the better.

There is a lull in public matters at home. Finsbury is to all present appearance not to be contested, and Mr. Remington Mills will be allowed to walk over the course. The expense of managing such a large constituency frightens men of limited means from venturing on a contest.

A great Cattle Show at Birmingham, and another promised in Baker-street next week, bring indications of coming Christmas cheer. It is to be hoped that we shall be allowed to eat our holiday beef and pudding without the fear of war to damp our enjoyment.

## Foreign News.

### FRANCE.

A significant remark has just appeared in the *Moniteur* which indicates that the French press have been using their freedom of discussion somewhat too unreservedly with regard to the projected financial changes. The official journals remind the newspapers which have been suggesting changes in the Constitution, that any such changes must come from the initiation of the Emperor and the Senate, that the Constitution itself must remain free from all public discussion, and that, in fact, the law upon the press had principally for its object to guarantee the Constitution against any such attacks to which it might be exposed.

The French Senate met, on Monday, at 2 o'clock, and held an extraordinary sitting. The order of the day consisted of 1st, the admission of new senators; 2nd, communication of a project of *senatus-consulte*.

### ITALY.

Baron Ricasoli has stated, in the Senate, last week, that the relations between Italy and France continue to be of the most cordial nature. He also said that the accounts of brigandage in the Neapolitan provinces were exaggerated, that the number

of brigands in the Basilicata does not exceed 250, and that a reinforcement of 2,000 Carabiniers would shortly be dispatched into that province.

A Turin correspondent of the *Independance* states that Mazzini is dangerously ill in England, and that several of his friends at Genoa and Milan have been summoned to his bedside. The Deputy Saffi, who was his colleague at Rome during the triumvirate of 1849, is said to be among the number.

The alleged ill health of Kossuth is contradicted.

**GARIBALDI IN TURIN.**—Garibaldi, says a dispatch from Turin, dated Sunday, has unexpectedly arrived here. It is asserted that he will be present at the next sitting of the Chamber of Deputies. A popular demonstration in his honour is spoken of. The city is perfectly tranquil.

In the Italian Chamber of Deputies, on Saturday, Signor Massari gave notice of a proposal to confer 1,000£ as a pension upon every one of the thousand persons who accompanied Garibaldi in his expedition to Marsala. The Duke of Prato, who made the wild proposition the other day about the restoration of Francis II., has tendered his resignation. The manner in which that proposition was received ought to satisfy even the ex-King of Naples himself, as to the light in which the public opinion of Italy regards himself and his dynasty.

Baron Tecco, the Italian Minister, who has quitted Madrid in consequence of the dispute between the Spanish and Italian Governments about the affair of the Neapolitan archives, arrived in Barcelona on Saturday, and was received by a numerous body of French, Italian, and even Spanish democrats, who gave him an enthusiastic welcome and accompanied him to the quay, where he embarked. The departing envoy addressed the assemblage, and in the course of his speech expressed a hope that Italy would triumph over all her enemies (must Spain now be included among them?) and that the Italian flag would wave over Venice and Rome. Not a very diplomatic proceeding, perhaps; but we nevertheless rejoice to hear that the quay of Barcelona echoed with the applause it awakened. Such an enunciation and its reception will, no doubt, be peculiarly gratifying to the Spanish Government, who have systematically displayed a malignant ill-will towards the growing freedom of Italy.

A meeting of the majority of the deputies at which the Ministers were also present, was held on Sunday. Baron Ricasoli gave explanations on the state of Naples, and the brigandage in the Basilicata, and on the frontiers of the Papal States. He said, that in pursuance of an understanding between the French and Italian Governments the French troops will energetically co-operate in the suppression of brigandage on the frontiers of the Papal States. Baron Ricasoli also announced that the Lieutenant of Sicily would shortly be abolished. In consequence of these explanations the majority of the deputies present resolved not to concur in any vote of want of confidence in the Ministry which might be proposed by the Opposition.

**GENOA, DEC. 3.**—Garibaldi, on his arrival here yesterday, proceeded to the office of the Central Italian Committee, of which he is the President. He eulogised the work undertaken by the Committee, and urged its vigorous prosecution. In the evening a grand demonstration was made in his honour, and an immense crowd of people assembled before the house in which he was staying. Garibaldi appeared on the balcony and made a short speech, in which he said, "With you it must be deeds, not words. At the moment of battle I shall be with you."

### AUSTRIA.

Some anxiety has been felt in Paris respecting the movements of Austria with regard to the insurrection in the Herzegovina. As the rumour ran, Austria had announced to the French Government that she felt compelled, for the safety of her own dominions, to intervene between the Turks and the insurgents, and that her troops had already crossed the frontier for the purpose. It would be needless to dwell upon the speculation to which this rumour gave rise, and the conjecture as to the probability of any such step on the part of Austria, affording an opportunity which neither Venice nor Hungary would be slow to grasp. But, although the rumour was not entirely baseless as many such stories are, it seems to have been a complete exaggeration of the actual facts. Austria intervenes so far as to secure free transit through the military road between Kiek and Ragusa, of which the insurgents had taken possession, with their artillery for their own exclusive use. This done, the Austrian troops—who actually appear to have already crossed the frontier for the purpose—would be immediately withdrawn. So at least the declaration of the Austrian Government is said to announce. But we are not surprised that any such movement on the part of Austria, for whatever purpose, should create some commotion and uneasiness at present, nor is it by any means certain that such a step might not lead to consequences quite different from the mere object which it was intended to effect.

### BELGIUM.

**CONFLAGRATION AT ANTWERP.**—A fearful fire broke out yesterday at the Napoleon Docks, Antwerp. The Belgian sugar refinery and the St. Felix bonding warehouses were burnt down. The estimated loss is 5,000,000£.

### PORTUGAL.

The Cortes of the Portuguese nation have been summoned by a proclamation of the new King to meet upon the 22nd of December.

### GERMANY.

The public will remember that some details—many of them better than guesswork—have been published regarding the scheme of reconstruction which Saxony is about to propose for the Germanic Confederation. Some of the German papers publish now what is described as an authentic outline of the scheme. The principal points are the following:—The Germanic Diet to meet for the future during two months of every year: one month at Ratisbon, under the presidency of Austria; the other month at Hamburg, under that of Prussia. The Diet is to be composed of the representatives of seventeen constituents of the Confederation. As well as the Diet there is to be an assembly of deputies composed of about one hundred and twenty members, named by the various German Chambers according to proportionate extent and population. This latter assembly is to have no right of initiative, but the Diet is to submit to it the projects of measures upon subjects of common interest concerning the welfare of Germany. During the time when these assemblies are not sitting, Austria, Prussia, and another German State—Saxony, no doubt—should form a combined executive. The powers and the

of the proposed executive have not yet been defined in the accounts published. Such is said to be in brief the outline of the plan, in which we confess that we see nothing peculiarly hopeful or attractive.

### CAPE.

The Cape mail has arrived at Plymouth. The relations of Panda, the chief of the Zulus, were again of a threatening character, that personage and his son having demanded the young prince, who were under the care of Bishop Colenso Ketchwayo. The elder son is said to be jealous of his brother and anxious to get them in his power. There was still danger of hostilities between the Orange Free State, that very aggressive Dutch Republic, and the Basutus, a tribe whose fertile territory is coveted by their unscrupulous neighbours. There are rumours of other disturbances which will be found noticed in our telegram.

### AMERICA.

The steamship Persia arrived at Queenstown on Saturday at eleven o'clock, a.m.

The following is an abstract of the news she brings, forwarded by electric telegraph, the dates are up to the 20th November at New York.

The capture of Messrs. Mason and Slidell forms the leading topic of discussion.

The New York journals are filled with legal quotations and precedents of the acts of the British Government to prove that the seizure of Messrs. Mason and Slidell is no breach of international law. They argue that the steamer Trent was liable to seizure for carrying rebel dispatches, and urge that promotion and testimonials should be conferred on Commander Wilks for his spirited conduct.

Messrs. Slidell and Mason have been taken to Fort Warren.

The Southern journals report that Jefferson Davis has been elected President, and Stephens Vice-President of the Confederate States for a term of six years.

Federal troops intended for the South continue to arrive at Annapolis.

The Confederates have again attacked the Federals at Santa Rosa Island, but the Federal fleet shelled them off.

The Georgia planters have held a convention, in which it was resolved that if the present cotton crop remain unsold, they will not plant any cotton next year.

The steamer Fingal is reported to have arrived at a Southern port with a cargo of ammunition.

### NEW YORK, NOV. 20 (MORNING).

General Dix has landed 4,000 troops on the eastern shore of Virginia, and has issued a proclamation guaranteeing constitutional rights to loyal inhabitants. It is reported that the Federals were well received by the people of Accomac and Northampton counties.

The Confederates have assembled in force at Big Bethel, and an attack on Newport News is expected.

Beaufort has been deserted by the Confederates, but not occupied by the Federals.

On the 16th instant the Federal fleet was still off Beaufort.

The Washington correspondent of the *New York Times* states that Lord Lyons had expressed his opinion that Messrs. Mason and Slidell would be given up to England.

The New York *Journal of Commerce* considers the opening of Beaufort for trade impracticable at present.

A Belgian steam-frigate has just been signaled off New York.

Advices from Havana to the 16th inst. state that the Spanish fleet had not started for Mexico.

The *Patrie* of Saturday evening contains the following strange announcement, which direct news from New York does not confirm:—"On the arrival of the news of the seizure of the Trent, the city of New York was spontaneously illuminated. The population, united with the Government, made energetic manifestations in favour of absolute resistance against any demand on the part of England."

We have the following additional particulars received since the Persia arrived at Liverpool:—

The American account of the Trent and San Jacinto affair agrees mainly with that of Captain Meir. But it is represented that all the documents of Messrs. Mason and Slidell were seized. The indications were that Captain Wilks acted on his own responsibility, and on the ground that although he may not have acted within the strict letter of the law the end would justify the means in the eyes of his countrymen.

A Cabinet Council was held on the subject at Washington, but the result had not transpired.

A Washington telegram in the *New York Herald* says, that when the information was first communicated to President Lincoln, he declared emphatically that Messrs. Mason and Slidell should not be surrendered, even if their detention should cause a war with Great Britain.

From the same source it is stated that the legal advisers of the Federal Government not only completely justify the proceeding, but even furnish authority for the seizure and confinement of the Trent.

The *New York Herald* editorially speculates on the action of England, and predicts great agitation. In a characteristic strain it taunts England with all sorts of perfidy, but thinks nothing will come of the matter more than bustle and ostentatious wrath. It urges the Government, nevertheless, to make preparations for all emergencies, and calls upon the President to ask Congress for 500,000 more men, and recommends the immediate carrying out of Mr. Seward's propositions for the defence of the coast, &c.

Some of the New York journals speak of the probable necessity for apologies and reparation, even to the sending of the prisoners back; but others argue in a totally different strain. The *New York Journal of Commerce* says it was purely an act of force that the British steamer was allowed to go free, and that it is far from likely that England would bother herself with any complaint from her captain, who escaped with his vessel and cargo from the fate of which the Queen's proclamation warned him. Great stress is laid in some of the arguments against that clause in the Queen's proclamation, which prohibits British vessels from carrying officers, dispatches, &c., for the service of either party, and it is asked if British vessels, in the face of such a proclamation, can protect themselves in their course, even of rebel emissaries and rebel dispatches.

The *New York World* does not believe that the British Cabinet will make any complaint; but if it does, the American Government can fully justify it by the case of the American steamer Carolina, which was destroyed by British officers in 1867. The *New York Times* also believes that England will not even remonstrate; but, on the contrary, will apply the

gallant act of Captain Wilks as an exact imitation of the policy she has always stoutly defended and pursued. The *Times* admits, however, that Captain Wilks was wrong in not taking the Trent into port and getting her condemned for carrying contraband of war.

The situation of affairs up to the time of the New York leaving is thus epitomised in the *New York Herald* of the 16th inst. :—

"The army of General McClellan has as yet made no active movement; the troops, however, for the past few days have been engaged in reconnoitring.

"The 'rebel' batteries on the Lower Potomac yesterday kept up a continuous fire on all the small vessels passing up and down the river; but, as far as we can learn, they did no damage.

"Information received from Poolesville yesterday states that the 'rebels' have evacuated Leesburg, and it was surmised that they had moved towards Romney to attack General Kelly. On the other hand it was supposed that they had gone South on hearing of the naval victory.

"Nothing later concerning the state of affairs at Port Royal has arrived.

"Though the Charleston papers of the 12th inst. state that Beaufort was not then in possession of the Union troops, yet the fact that we publish in our columns to-day advices from here, on the very same date, proves that the assertion of the Charleston journals is without foundation. According to the same authority, 'rebel' reinforcements were being sent to Beaufort.

"The petition of the Baltimore merchants, asking the Government to give a share of its patronage to the loyal and suffering mechanics of that city, praying for the establishment of a naval depot there, and the participation in contracts for Government supplies, has been met by the President with a good grace. He promises that the Baltimore mechanics shall receive the fullest consideration from the heads of the various departments.

"We learn from Missouri that the Union forces have evacuated Springfield. The divisions of General Siegel and Asboth are moving towards St. Louis. The Union men of Springfield and its vicinity are leaving with the army, not being willing to risk their lives in the hands of the rebels.

"Intelligence of the capture of a large British steamer laden with arms and munitions of war, and supposed to be the *Fingal*, from Greenock, Scotland, by a United States' frigate, which took her prize into Key West, reaches us from Horner's Hole yesterday, where the brig *Manzoni* has just arrived from Cardenas.

"Our news from San Francisco also mentions the arrest of a supposed privateer, the schooner *Neva*, at that port, by the captain of the revenue cutter *Mary*. It appears that the *Neva* was fitted out at Shanghai, China, and that information of this fact preceded her arrival at San Francisco.

"Immense excitement was created in Savannah upon the arrival of the news of the Union victory at Beaufort. The women and children and a large number of citizens were leaving the city, and the Savannah papers were urging the necessity of the defenceless portion of the population getting out of the way, in order not to embarrass the troops, which, it was expected, would have to defend the city against our troops."

According to one authority, the Government had decided to immediately appoint a Customs' collector for Beaufort; but another account says that no decision had been come to relative to the permission for trading at that port.

The news of the affair of the *San Jacinto* and the *Trent* only reached New York on the morning of the steamer's departure, so that the journals are silent upon the subject.

The New York Bank Committee had agreed with Secretary Chase to take the third \$50,000,000 loan, making the total \$150,000,000.

Colonel Cochrane, of the New York 1st Chasseurs, had made another very significant speech to his regiment at Washington, and, as his remarks were formally and cordially approved by Secretary Cameron, who was present at the time, great importance is attached to them. After expatiating on the objects of the war, and extolling the efforts that were being made by the Unionists, Colonel Cochrane proceeds as follows :

"In such a war we are bound to resort to every force within our power. Suppose (said the speaker) our army encounters myriads of cotton bales, and we are able to export these cotton bales to Europe, and receive from them millions upon millions of the sinews of war, do you say we should not seize the cotton? No; you are clear upon that point. Suppose that munitions of war, that substance for their army are within our reach, would we not be guilty of shameful neglect were we not to appropriate them to our own use? Certainly we would. Suppose the enemy advances against you, would you from any squeamishness—from any false delicacy—refrain from levelling the hostile gun, and prostrating them in death. No. It is your object, it is your purpose. Then if you seize their property, if you open their ports, if you destroy their lives, I ask you whether you will not seize their slaves? I ask you whether you will not arm their slaves, and whether you will not carry them by battalions into war against their masters? (Cheers.) What! You have no sympathy for white rebels, and yet you will spare the black slaves, whom they use! Why, if it be necessary to save this Government, I would plunge their whole people, black and white, into one indiscriminate sea of carnage and slaughter, and build upon it a Government which shall be the vicegerent of God. Let us have no more of this dallying with people's dilatant conservatism, this doubting in Cabinet when your soldiers are perishing in the field. Soldiers, you know no such reasoning as this. You have arms in your hands, and those arms are for the purpose of exterminating the enemy until he submits to law, order, and the Constitution. Then explode whatever magazine of combustibles is in your way; set fire to and consume the cotton; export the cotton; take property whenever you find it; take the slave and bestow him upon the non-slaveholders if you please; do unto them as they would do unto you; raise up in their midst a party interest against the present slaveholders; distract their counsels. Do all this, and if that be not sufficient, take the slave by the hand, place a musket in it, and bid him in God's name strike for the liberty of the human race. (Great cheering.)"

The City of New York, which reached Liverpool on Friday, brings additional American news of interest and importance.

The Charleston papers of the 12th inst. deny that the Federals have occupied the town of Beaufort, and state that

reinforcements had been sent hither by the Confederates, who were preparing to defend the town. The Federals, however, have occupied Hilton Island, the cotton crop on which was found to have been fired by the residents before leaving.

The *Charleston Courier* say there is little cotton stored at or near Beaufort.

The New York journals state that the Federal Government has not determined whether Beaufort shall be made a port of entry.

The Southern journals state that black flags have been hoisted at Charleston and Savannah as an indication that no quarter would be given, and that none would be asked.

Eighteen Federal officers, prisoners of war at Richmond, have been selected to be hung should the Federal Government hang the crew of the privateer *Savannah*.

Confirmatory accounts have been received of bridge burning on a most extensive scale by the Union men of East Tennessee.

The Federal army has evacuated Springfield, Missouri, returning to St. Louis.

It is reported that a United States' war vessel has captured a large British steamer, supposed to be the *Fingal*, laden with arms, at Key West.

Colonel Cochrane, in addressing his regiment at Washington, urged the arming of the Southern slaves against their masters. The Secretary of war was present on the occasion, and is reported to have fully endorsed Colonel Cochrane's speech.

A dispatch from Fortress Monroe reports the arrival of the United States' steam sloop-of-war *San Jacinto*, from the coast of Africa, with Messrs. Slidell and Mason on board.

The reported battle at Pikesville, Kentucky, was very much exaggerated. There were no killed, and the number of wounded and prisoners is reduced to eighty and fifty respectively.

The newspapers by the packet contains the dispatches to the Washington Government from the commander of the expedition. From those we learn respecting the important naval operations of the Federal fleet at Port Royal, that the Confederates made a vigorous resistance, but were utterly unable to withstand the volleys of shot and shell which the Federals poured into the two forts. The rebel force, which is reported to have numbered 3,000 or 4,000 men, precipitately retreated and made good their escape. The forts were both new, and were strengthened by well-constructed earthworks. They mounted respectively twenty-three guns and nineteen guns, all of powerful calibre. Curiously enough, a dispatch from Jefferson Davis was discovered apprising the commander of the post that the fleet had sailed, and that he knew its destination was to be Port Royal. The Confederates retired across Skull Creek to a distance of about twenty-five miles in the interior. These accounts show conclusively that Beaufort was in the hands of the Federals, although they had not actually occupied it with troops. Then negroes were flocking into the Federal camp by hundreds and thousands. We read that as the gunboats were passing up the river to Beaufort on the day after the fight, large numbers of them came down to the shore with bundles in their hands as if expecting to be taken off. Slavery has undoubtedly received its death blow in the State of South Carolina. The wildest excitement appears to prevail at Charleston and Savannah. In the latter place the women and children were being removed as rapidly as possible.

sale by auction, and, as an inducement to bidders, the purchaser would have the right to a safe containing £7,000 in gold. No offer was made, and the wreck was bought in for £4,000. Messrs. Gibbs, Bright, and Co., of Liverpool, then became the purchasers, and on Friday, or the day before, in clearing away the wreck, the missing safe was found, with the £7,000 in it.

**BANK OF DEPOSIT.**—The solicitors for the official manager have applied to the Master of the Rolls to take the examination of the directors of the National Assurance and Investment Association in open court, and we understand that an early day will be appointed for that purpose.

**THE BIRKENHEAD ELECTION.**—The writ for the new borough of Birkenhead has been issued this week, and the election is to take place this Saturday or Monday. There are two candidates in the field—Mr. Brassey (Liberal) and Mr. Laird (Conservative). The former gentleman has commenced the campaign by addressing meetings of the electors on Thursday and Friday last. He was favourably received, and resolutions pledging all present to use every means to secure his triumphant return was unanimously carried.

**SETTLEMENT OF THE MEXICAN QUESTION.**—The *Morning Post* of Saturday says:—We are glad to be able to inform our readers that the Mexican Government is fully alive to the urgency of our claims and the necessity of at once accepting them. We understand that Government has received by the last mail information of the agreement of Mexico to a convention, by which our requirements are one and all fully conceded. Sir Charles Wyke, powerfully seconded, no doubt, by the rumours of our intentions, which must have crossed the Atlantic, has been able to negotiate and conclude terms, by which full satisfaction is given to us; and the Mexican Government, alarmed, in all probability, for the consequences of its own conduct, has complied with the demands which we had hitherto addressed in vain to its sense of justice, and which we had sent out a naval expedition to enforce. This capitulation on the part of the Government of Mexico is, we understand, unequivocal and complete. We are to have compensation for outrages, the repayment of money stolen, and the fulfilment of the engagements which the Mexican Government has by treaty stipulated towards the bondholders.

**GENERAL SCOTT.**—It may interest many of our readers to learn that the ancestors of General Scott, the late Commander-in-Chief of the American Federal army, whose arrival in this country is reported, belonged to Lanark, and that the gallant veteran is distantly related to the family of the late eminent painter, David Scott, R.S.A. It is said to be his purpose to pass the winter in Rome.—*North British Daily Mail*.

**HOW MUCH MONEY THERE IS IN THE COUNTRY.**—It appears that, making allowances for the efflux of gold to the Continent, there is now in circulation in Great Britain one hundred million of gold coins—sovereigns and half sovereigns. The number of silver coins is as follows:—Crowns, 2,320,827; half-crowns, 37,516,343; florins, 10,000,000; shillings, 112,554,106; sixpences, 79,132,578; fourpences, 30,142,034; threepences, 7,572,437; total, 266,237,525 pieces of money. There are five hundred millions of pence, half-pence, and farthings doing duty among us; the total avoirdupois weight being six thousand tons.

**THE EXPORT OF SALTPETRE PROHIBITED.**—The Government have forbidden the further exportation of saltpetre. Instructions to that effect have been dispatched to the various custom houses. The American Government have issued similar orders.

**THE FUNERAL OF SERGEANT DIXON AT ALDERSHOT.**—The remains of the lamented Sergeant Dixon were interred last week in the cemetery of the camp at Aldershot, under circumstances of a very impressive character. The attendance of the soldiers of the various corps stationed in the camp was very numerous, and the deepest sympathy was manifested while paying the last tribute of respect to the deceased. The customary service was read in the south camp church, where the body was conveyed, after which the Rev. Mr. Hulcatt addressed the assembled troops in reference to the mournful circumstances under which the deceased came by his death. The body was then taken to the cemetery, where the firing party fired three rounds over the grave.

**POLISH NATIONALITY.**—An influential and numerously attended meeting on the Polish question was held at the Whittington Club on Friday week. Able speeches were delivered by Mr. Harvey Lewis, M.P., Mr. Coningham, M.P., Mr. Edmond Beales, Mr. Slack, and other gentlemen. Resolutions were passed setting forth the gross injustice of which Poland is the victim, and calling upon the Government to suspend all payments on account of the Russo-Dutch Loan until Russia fulfills the engagements she incurred by the Treaty of Vienna. A petition founded upon these resolutions, but entering into the question at considerable length, was also adopted. The meeting displayed great enthusiasm on behalf of the Polish cause.

**THE LATE LORD HERBERT.**—A very influential and numerously-attended meeting was held at Willis's Rooms last week to promote the erection of an appropriate memorial to the late Lord Herbert. The Duke of Cambridge presided. A resolution expressing a sense of the loss which the country had sustained by the untimely death of Lord Herbert was moved by Lord Palmerston, who paid a high tribute to his noble colleague's public services, and to the unquenchable zeal in the business of the department over which he presided, which unhappily led him to neglect his health until it was too late to stop the ravages of disease. Mr. Gladstone moved a resolution declaring that a subscription should be raised for erecting a statue of the deceased, and also for the endowment of exhibitions of gold medals in connection with the army medical school at Chatham. The right hon. gentleman delivered a very eloquent speech, in which he not only dwelt upon Lord Herbert's efforts to reform the army, but eulogised the virtues of his private character. The Bishop of Oxford moved the appointment of a committee to carry out the objects of the meeting; and among the other speakers were the Duke of Newcastle and Sir John Burgoyne.

**DEERFOOT AT LEEDS.**—Deerfoot ran on Monday at Victoria-grounds, Leeds, against four competitors, Mills, of London, Brighton, of Norwich, Barker, of London, and Cliffe, of Leeds. Fifteen thousand persons were present. Mills, after a splendid running, gave up at six miles' distance. Parker had an accident and was thrown over for two laps, but Brighton gamely ran on with Deerfoot to the close, and was distanced by only two yards. The Indian put on a tremendous spirit at the finish and arrived at the post by that distance ahead of his opponent. The time occupied in running the ten miles was fifty-three minutes and ten seconds—the shortest time on record.

## Home News.

Mr. Halliwell's Shakespeare fund (including the £100 just subscribed by the Prince Consort) has reached the sum of £3,121.

Madame Goldschmidt, before quitting Aberdeen last week, sent 100 guineas to the Provost, to be distributed among the local charities.

The value of the exports and imports at Vera Cruz, in Mexico, during 1860, was £6,320,000 sterling.

The traffic receipts of the South Eastern Railway are £2,400 less than in the corresponding week of last year.

At Lloyds', in consequence of news by the La Plata, war risks of five guineas were demanded on vessels from New York.

Among recent marriages announced we observe that of Miss Evans, daughter of Mr. Evans, of the firm of Bradbury and Evans, to Mr. C. Dickens, jun., son of the novelist.

Two fine Russian war vessels, a frigate and a corvette, are now under repairs at Gravesend, and have been visited by large numbers of persons.

Trade in Glasgow is at present very dull, so that there are no fewer than from 6,000 to 7,000 able-bodied men out of work there. The misery consequent thereupon is very great.

The iron-plated man-of-war, *Black Prince*, has been ordered to be got ready for sea as soon as possible. Between 200 and 300 additional hands are to be engaged for the work in the beginning of the week.

Mr. Montgomery Martin is preparing from official papers an account of the dependencies of Great Britain, under the title of "India and the Colonies: Present State and Prospects."

Many attempts have been made to pass counterfeit sovereigns in Manchester. The counterfeit coin is rather smaller than the genuine sovereign; the obverse is a good impression, but the reverse and the milling are imperfect.

The National Life-boat Institution, during November, paid £120 to the crews of some of its life-boats on the Norfolk and Suffolk coasts, for saving forty-eight persons from wrecks.

A table furnished by a Manchester paper shows the state of production in 562 mills, employing 108,863 hands. Of these workers it appears 6,022 are thrown out of employment, and the general reduction of hours is thirty-four per cent.

**OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.**—The Marquis of Ailsa has been appointed Lord Lieutenant of the shire and county of Ayr, in the room of the Earl of Eglinton deceased. The Queen has appointed Lord Canning, Ranger of Greenwich Park, with a residence, in the room of the late Earl of Aberdeen.

**THE NEW JUDGE.**—Mr. J. Mellor, Q.C., M.P. for Nottingham, and Recorder of Leicester, has been nominated by the Lord Chancellor to the seat on the bench, vacant by the resignation of Mr. Justice Hill. The vacant judgeship was declined by the Attorney-General, Sir W. Atherton, M.P.

**THE ROYAL CHARTER.**—It will be recollect that a few months ago the wreck of the Royal Charter was offered for

SEIZURE OF THE CONFEDERATE COMMISSIONERS  
ON BOARD THE BRITISH STEAMER TRENT.

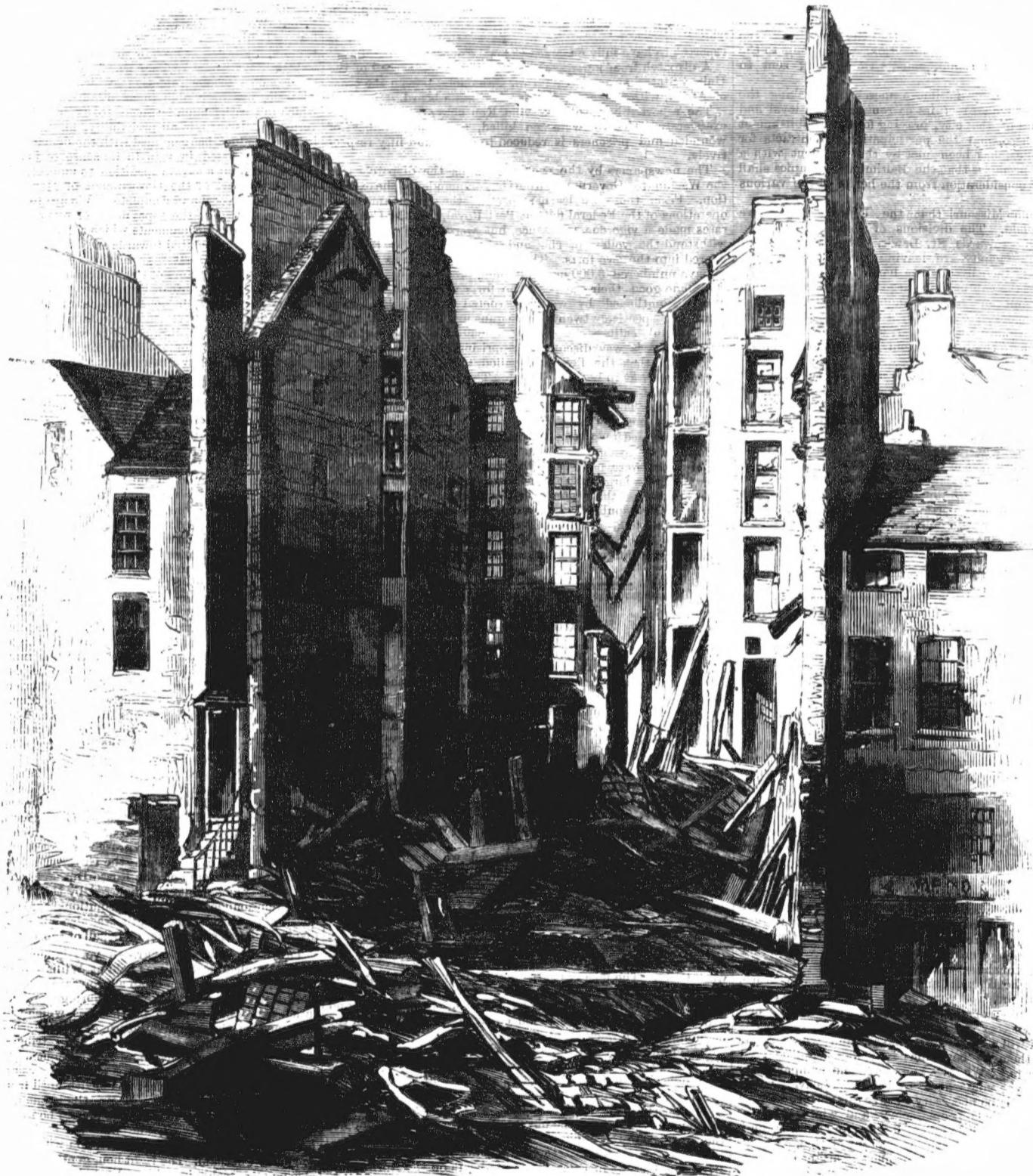
The purser of the mail steamer Trent supplies the following narrative of the circumstances attending the boarding of that vessel by the lieutenant and men of the American sloop-of-war San Jacinto, and the forcible seizure of the Confederate commissioners:—

"I hasten to forward some particulars of the grievous outrage committed to-day (Nov. 8) against the English flag by the United States' steam-sloop San Jacinto, Captain Wilks. You have probably heard how, some three weeks ago, the little steamer Theodora, having on board the commissioners sent by the Confederate States of America to London and Paris, ran an blockade at Charleston, arriving safely in Havana. Once thived there, they of course imagined that on neutral territory they were perfectly free and safe from all molestation, and therefore made no attempt to conceal their names, position, and intended movements. Mr. Slidell, the commissioner for Paris, was accompanied by his wife, son, and three daughters, and also by his secretary, Mr. G. Eustis, with his wife; Mr. Mason the commissioner for England, being accompanied by

his secretary, Mr. McFarland. It was well known in Havana that berths were booked for the whole party to proceed by this steamer to St. Thomas, there to join the homeward West India mail steamship for Southampton. They accordingly embarked yesterday morning, trusting to receive the same protection under the English flag which they had already received from that of Spain.

"We left Havana yesterday morning at eight. This morning, about half-past eleven, we observed a large steamship ahead, and on a nearer approach found she was hove to, evidently awaiting us. We were then in the narrowest part of the Bahama Channel, abreast Paredon Grande Lighthouse. As soon as we were well within range, we had the first intimation of her nationality and intentions by a round shot being fired across our bows, and at the same moment by her showing American colours. We were now sufficiently near to observe that all her ports were open, guns run out, and crew at their stations. On a still nearer approach she fired a shell from a swivel gun of large calibre on her forecastle, which passed within a few yards of the ship, bursting about a hundred yards to leeward. We were now within hail, when Captain Moir, commanding this ship, asked the American what he meant by

stopping his ship, and why he did so by firing shotted guns, contrary to usual custom. The reply was that he wished to send a boat on board of us. This was immediately followed by a boat pushing off from the side of the San Jacinto, containing between twenty and thirty men, heavily armed, under the command of the first lieutenant, who came up, on the quarterdeck, and after asking for Captain Moir, demanded a list of passengers. As his 'right of search' was denied, the information required was, of course, peremptorily refused. He then stated that he had information that Messrs. Slidell, Mason, Eustis, and McFarland were on board, and demanded that they should be given up. This also being indignantly refused, Mr. Slidell himself came forward and said that the four gentlemen named were then before him, but appealed to the British flag under which they were sailing, for protection. The lieutenant said that his orders were to take them on board the San Jacinto by force if they would not surrender. He then walked to the side of the ship and waved his hand; immediately three more heavily armed boats pushed off and surrounded the ship, and the party of marines who came in the first boat came up and took possession of the quarter-deck; these, however, he ordered down on the main-deck, to take charge of the gang-



SCENE OF THE LATE CATASTROPHE IN EDINBURGH. SEE PAGE 139.

way ports. Captain Williams, R.N., the naval agent in charge of the mails, who was of course present during this interview, then, in the name of her Majesty, he being the only person on board directly representing her, made a vehement protestation against this piratical act. During the whole of this time the San Jacinto was about 200 yards distant from us on the port beam, her broadside guns, which were all manned, directly bearing upon us. Any open resistance to such a force was of course hopeless, although, from the loud and repeated blandishments which followed Capt. Williams's protestations, and which were joined in by every one, without exception, of the passengers congregated on the quarter-deck, men of all nations, and from the manifested desire of some to resist to the last, I have no doubt but that every person would have joined heart and soul in the struggle had our commander but given

the order. Such an order he could not, under such adverse circumstances, conscientiously give, and it was therefore considered sufficient that a party of marines, with bayonets fixed, should forcibly lay hands on the gentlemen named. This was done, and the gentlemen retired to their cabins to arrange some few changes of clothing. A most heartrending scene now took place between Mr. Slidell, his eldest daughter—a noble girl devoted to her father—and the lieutenant. It would require a far more able pen than mine to describe how, with flashing eyes and quivering lips, she threw herself in the doorway of the cabin where her father was, resolved to defend him with her life, till on the order being given to the marines to advance, which they did, with bayonets pointed at this poor defenceless girl, her father ended the painful scene by escaping from the cabin by a window, when he was immediately seized

by the marines and hurried into the boat, calling out to Captain Moir, as he left, that he held him and his Government responsible for this outrage.

"If further proof were required of the meanness and cowardly bullying in the line of conduct pursued by the Captain of the San Jacinto, I may remark, first, that on being asked if they would have committed this outrage if we had been a man-of-war, they replied, 'Certainly not,' and, secondly, that Captain Wilks sent an order for Captain Moir to go on board his ship, and a second for Captain Moir to move the Trent closer to the San Jacinto. Of course, not the slightest notice was taken of either order, nor did they attempt to enforce them."

Our engraving on page 141 gives a representation of the spirited conduct of Miss Slidell in opposing the arrest of her father, as described in the foregoing account.



THE AMERICAN WAR—CONFEDERATE VOLUNTEERS OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

## THE SOUTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEERS.

SOUTH Carolina has supplied a large force to the Confederate army in the Potomac, and still has a good supply of local defenders though they will be hard pressed should the Federalists make good their footing in the State. The engraving gives a view of the Charleston Militia, on which will devolve the duty of repelling a hostile attack. The Scotch settlers are represented by the "Highland guard" in full national costume, and the Scottish Fusileers; the English by a regiment of "Horse Guards;" the French by a corps of red-legged Zouaves; the Germans by the "Teutonic Infantry;" Ireland by the "Palmetto Guard" and the native Americans by the "Lafayette Artillery." It will be seen from this that the European nationalities are fully represented.

Trask's *Anti-Tobacco Journal* states that the clergy of the United States cost 6,000,000 dols.; criminals, 10,000,000 dols.; lawyers, 35,000,000 dols.; tobacco, 40,000,000 dols.; and rum, 100,000,000 dols. every year.

## VIEW OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA.

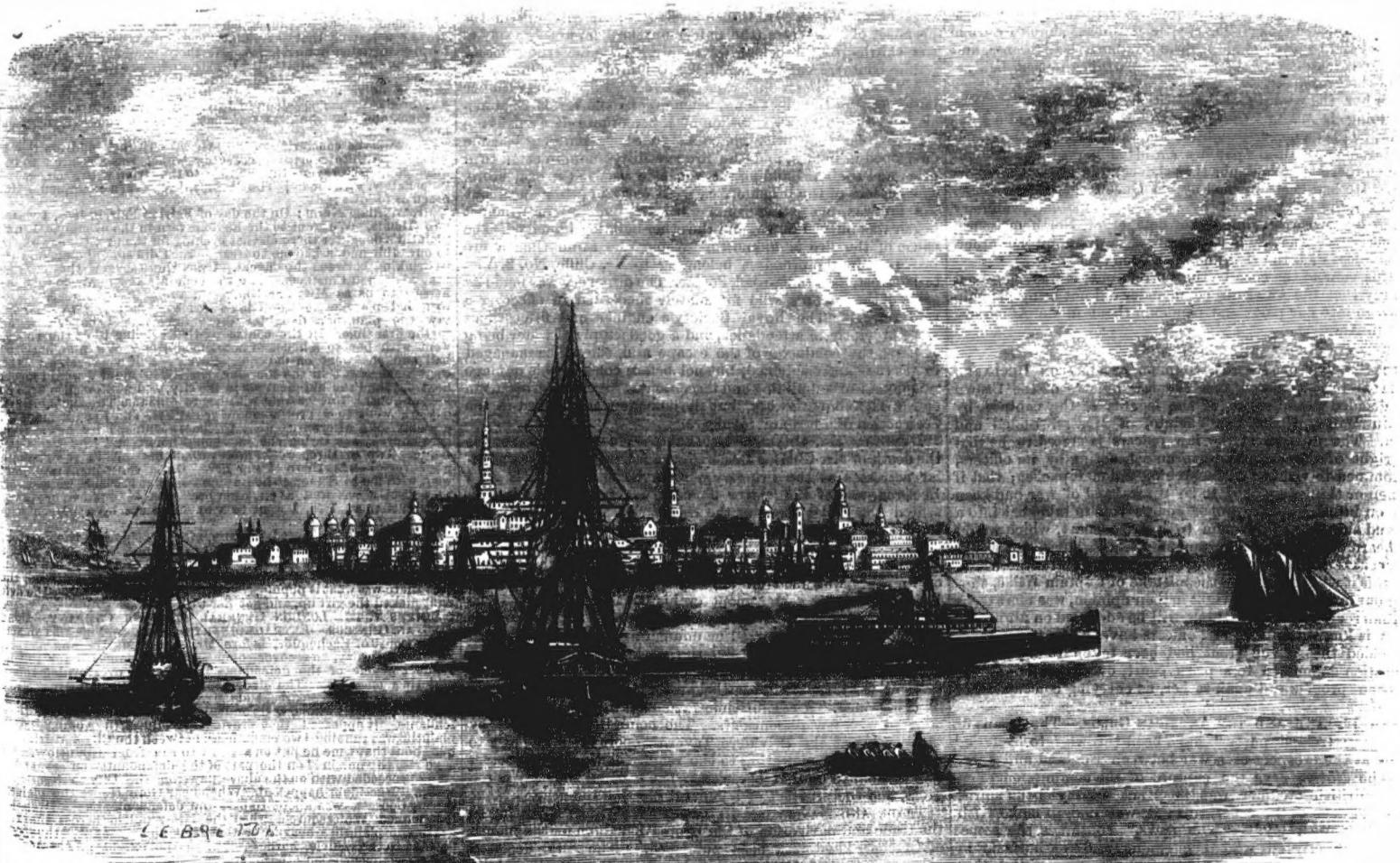
The city of Charleston is the capital of South Carolina. It was the first place that took up arms for the Confederate cause, and has been the focus of the chief opposition to the Northern States. The interest associated with it in its connection with the taking of Fort Sumter at the beginning of the war is now revived, through the recent attack upon Fort Royal and the landing of a Federal army within fifty miles of the State capital. An attack is shortly expected to be made by the troops landed at Beaufort, reinforced by others, upon both Charleston and Savannah. The former city was formed in 1680, and was considerably enlarged in 1890, when a colony of French refugees settled within its walls. The situation is at the confluence of the Astley and Cooper rivers, about seven miles from the Atlantic. The bay or harbor formed by the foregoing rivers is nearly two miles in length, and has deep water up to the city wharves. The principal exports of Charleston prior to the war were rice, cotton, and tobacco; and the imports cotton, woollen, and linen fabrics, hardware, colonial produce, and provisions generally. The trade in all these was

considerable. From our engraving it will be seen that the situation is very beautiful, though the surrounding country is flat and swampy.

The *Italia* states that General Cialdini was to leave Turin immediately for Bologna, where he will resume the command of the 4th corps d'armée.

THE LATE EARL OF EGLINTON.—A meeting composed of men of all ranks of politics, will shortly be held in Dublin under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, for the purpose of paying a tribute of national respect to the memory of the late Earl of Eglinton, in consideration of his great exertions to advance the material interests of Ireland.

FINSBURY ELECTION.—Mr. Ex-Sheriff Lusk has issued an address to the electors declining to come forward, feeling that he would be entering upon a contest with a gentleman whose opinions are identical with his own. Mr. Lusk however reserves himself for some occasion when his coming forward may better promote the object which all Liberals have at heart.



VIEW OF CHARLESTON, CAPITAL OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

## THE AMERICAN PRESS ON THE SEIZURE OF THE CONFEDERATE COMMISSIONERS.

In regard to the opinion of the legal advisers of the Government, we have the following in a Washington telegram to the *New York Herald* :

"Notwithstanding the feverishness exhibited in diplomatic circles here in reference to the seizure of the rebel commissioners, Messrs. Mason and Slidell, on board of a neutral vessel, there is no uneasiness upon the subject among the officers of the Government. They are informed by their legal advisers that a careful examination of the opinions and decisions of the most distinguished writers upon international law, and their application to the facts in this case, as well as to all the precedents in modern history, not only completely justify the proceeding of Captain Wilks in all that he did, but even furnish authority for the seizure and confiscation of the neutral vessel upon which the rebel ambassadors and their dispatches were discovered. The authorities cited are voluminous. In addition to the other authorities, one of the legal advisers of the Government cites to your correspondent, to-day, Kent's 'Commentaries,' edition of 1832, chap. 7, page 152, as follows :

"There are other acts of illegal assistance afforded to a belligerent besides supplying him with contraband goods, and relieving his distress under a blockade. Among these acts the conveyance of hostile dispatches is the most injurious, and deemed to be of the most hostile and noxious character. The carrying of two or three cargoes of stores is necessarily an assistance of a limited nature, but in the transmission of dispatches may be conveyed the entire plan of a campaign, and it may lead to a defeat of all the projects of the other belligerent in that theatre of war. The appropriate remedy for this offence is the confiscation of the ship."

From these authorities it is clearly shown that the transportation of dispatches, bearer of dispatches, or military officers, for a belligerent, is of the same nature as the carrying of goods contraband of war; and the vessel so engaged in the service of one belligerent is a subject of lawful prize and confiscated by the other; that it is incontestably the right of a belligerent to seize an ambassador of the enemy, if found on the seas on board of a neutral vessel, on his passage and before his arrival in a neutral country, and his assumption of the functions of his office near the Government to which he is accredited; that the fact of sailing from a neutral port does not change or in any way abate this right, and that it is unquestionably lawful and essential to the exercise of his right, for the legally commissioned vessels of war of the belligerent to visit and search merchant ships on the high seas, whatever be the ships, their cargoes, or destinations, for the purpose of discovering contraband of war, and seizing the enemy's property, dispatches, or ambassadors. It is considered plain, therefore, by the judicial advisers of the Government, that if to carry a dispatch be a cause of confiscation, *a fortiori*, to carry the person and papers of an ambassador, who is a manufactory of dispatches, presents even a stronger case; and if the neutral ship becomes a lawful prize by carrying the dispatches or the bearer of dispatches of a belligerent, any less invasion than absolute seizure and confiscation is fully justified.

The *New York Journal of Commerce*, after discussing the legal bearings of the case, and quoting sundry authorities, say :—

We suppose that is unnecessary to make any application of the general principles we have laid down to the case of the Trent and the San Jacinto.

From the reports received it appears that the former vessel received on board two civilians, special ambassadors to Europe on an errand to procure aid for the Southern belligerents, and carrying dispatches of the utmost importance to that belligerent in the present war.

Whether the captain of the British vessel knew what he was doing is unimportant. The law supposes that a shipmaster, or his owner or freighter, knows his lading, and knows the character of all dispatches on his ship. In the present instance there is little doubt that the captain knew the whole story. He had been warned by his Queen that if he violated the neutrality of England by carrying dispatches, military men, or otherwise serving either belligerent, North or South, in America, he was liable to seizure as a prize by the other. He doubtless took the risk, and with open eyes.

If this view of the case be the correct one, it was a pure act of mercy that the American commander did not bring his ship and cargo into our ports and condemn them in an Admiralty Court in America.

THE SEIZURE OF MESSRS. SLIDELL AND MASON DECLARED ILLEGAL.—It is declared that the law officers of the Crown have decided the question of the legality of the capture, by Captain Wilks, of the San Jacinto, of Messrs. Slidell and Mason. The opinion of the law officers is stated to be that "the right of the Federal Government, acting by its officers, was confined to visiting and searching the mail packet; that if any men or thing supposed to be contraband of war had been found on board her, the proper course was to take her into a port, and submit the question to a prize court, which would have decided the case according to precedents and authorities." From this it will be seen that the mistake of Captain Wilks, supposing our law officers to be right in their opinion, was more technical than real; and this, we think, will be admitted on all hands, when it is known that the law officers have, as we understand, also decided that if the Trent had been taken to a port, and the question submitted to a prize court, condemnation would have been pronounced against her, as carrying contraband of war.—*Morning Star*.

YOUNG IRELAND AND THE AMERICAN CRISIS.—The organs of the "Young Ireland party" have been thrown into hysterics from joy at the prospect of a war between England and America. The *Nation* says the capture of the commissioners on board a British steamer was an "act worthy of the spirit, daring, and dash of the Americans; it was one to make Irish hearts jump with joy." "The news," continues the same organ, "has created wild excitement and enthusiasm in Dublin, and it will awaken similar feelings and sensations throughout the whole country." If the English Government resent the insult, then we are told will come "a great time for Ireland." Then will the men who are *gone with a vengeance* prove勇敢的勇士。 Then will the Irish race in America, *ready to arms and bound into the battle*."

THE BRITISH FORCE ON THE NORTH AMERICAN AND WEST INDIA STATIONS.—The following list of the force under the command of Vice-Admiral Sir Alexander Milne, K.C.B., on the American seaboard, together with those on passage, has been compiled from official sources, and comprises the number of ships, guns, men, horse-power, tonnage, and the names of the commanding officers, on the North American and West India Station :—

Ships.	Guns.	Men.	H.p.	Tons.	Com. Officers.
Nile	90	850	500	2622	Capt. E. K. Barnard
St. George	86	880	500	2864	Capt. H. Egerton
Immortalite	51	570	600	3059	Capt. G. Hancock
Mersey	40	600	1000	3733	Capt. H. Caldwell
Diadem	32	485	800	2483	Capt. G. Randolph
Ariadne	26	400	800	3214	Capt. Vanisart
Challenger	22	280	400	1462	Capt. J. Kennedy
Cadmus	21	270	400	1466	Capt. H. Hillyar
Jason	21	270	400	1721	Capt. E. Von Donop
Terror	16	60	200	1954	Capt. F. Hutton
Mindalo	17	170	200	951	Com. W. Hewett
Racer	11	120	150	679	Com. A. Lyons
Imaum	10	81	—	1776	Capt. H. Dunlop
Desperate	7	170	400	1088	Com. J. Ross
Bacchante	6	170	800	1063	Com. G. Malcolm
Bulldog	6	170	500	1124	Com. F. M. Kilop
Hyde	6	130	200	818	Com. R. Hamilton
Spitfire	6	170	200	1064	Com. W. Wilson
Cygnet	6	60	80	423	Com. A. Thrupp
Landal	5	60	80	425	Com. T. Martin
Nimble	5	50	80	428	Lieut. J. D'Arcy
Steady	5	60	80	431	Com. H. Grant
Nettle	3	23	20	211	gunboat
Onyx	2	23	20	211	gunboat
Kite	3	—	170	300	steaming
Kingston	—	—	—	—	harbour
Pyramus	—	4	—	920	receiving hulk
Weymouth	—	6	—	826	receiving hulk
Despatch	—	—	—	—	sheer vessel
Devonport	—	—	—	—	anchor hoy
Doterl	—	—	—	—	receiving ship
Dromedary	—	—	—	—	convict ship
Mariana	—	—	—	—	receiving ship
Midway	—	—	—	—	convict hulk
Safety	—	—	—	—	receiving hulk
Tenedos	—	—	—	—	convict hulk
Thames	—	—	—	—	convict hulk
Total	506	6192	8260	37569	
		ON PASSAGE.			
Conqueror	99	1070	800	3265	Capt. Sotheby
Donegal	99	950	850	3245	Capt. S. Osborn
Sussexpatriot	70	550	400	2339	Capt. G. Bowyer
Phaeton	31	343	400	2396	Capt. L. Tatham
Himalaya	6	112	700	3453	Capt. J. Secombe
Medea	6	165	350	835	Com. D. A. Preston
Total	331	2317	3450	15533	

EXTENSIVE FIRES.—On Monday morning, about one o'clock a fire broke out on the premises belonging to Mr. J. Standing, a hoop bender, situate at No. 215 in Kent-street, Newington. The premises were adjoined by those belonging to Mr. T. Watts, a dairyman, and the tremendous stores belonging to Mr. A. Cohen, rag merchant, 161, Great Dover-street. A police-constable of the M division in passing along his beat observed smoke issuing in dense bodies over the roofs of the surrounding houses, and an immediate alarm succeeded in arousing the inmates in Kent-street and also those living in the Dover-road. He had accomplished that when huge sheets of flame shot forth from Mr. Standing's premises, and at the same time ignited about fifty tons weight of rags in Mr. Cohen's stores. The fire then assumed such a threatening aspect that every house near appeared doomed to be destroyed. The firemen went to work in their usual intrepid manner, but they were unable to get the flames extinguished until the factory of Mr. Standing was burned down, about fifty tons of rags belonging to Mr. Cohen destroyed, the windows in the premises of Mr. Watts (the dairyman) broken, and the roof of the skittle-ground belonging to Mr. T. Sadler (the Victory public-house) greatly damaged. The origin of the fire is unknown. The same morning a fire was discovered raging in a timber building, thirty-six feet long, belonging to the Royal Commissioners of the Great Exhibition of 1851, situate at Kensington Gore. In a very brief space of time this building became enveloped in flames, and the fire speedily communicated to a brick and timber building at the side used as a coal store. The engines of the brigade, &c., were early in attendance, but the fire was not extinguished until the building in which it began was burned down, and the other building damaged. The cause of the fire is unknown. About the same time a fire broke out in the premises belonging to Mr. Cliffe, No. 2, Victoria-street, East India-road, Poplar. The discovery was made by some of the inmates, who fortunately succeeded in effecting a safe retreat. The Royal Society's engines and fire-escapes were promptly in attendance, and a good supply of water being at hand, the conductor of the escape and the police managed to get the flames subdued, but not before considerable damage was done to the building and its contents. A fire also occurred at No. 42, Lambeth-walk, but the damage was confined to the destruction of bed and furniture.

DEATH OF MR. CHARLES LECLERCQ.—We have to announce the death of Mr. Charles Leclercq, the father of the two popular actresses at the Princess's, Miss Carlotta and Miss Rosa Leclercq, and of the clever dancers who have so long represented the ballet force at the Haymarket Theatre. Mr. Leclercq died at eight p.m. on Tuesday, the 26th ult., at his residence, 16, Albert-street, Regent's-park, at the age of 64.

FINSBURY ELECTION.—An influential meeting of the electors of Finsbury was held on Monday night, to hear from Mr. J. Remington Mills a statement of his political opinions. The hon. candidate met with a very cordial reception. Among the articles of his political creed he enumerated a six pound rental franchise, vote by ballot, and the abolition of church-rates. He made an incidental allusion to the American difficulty, expressing the hope that peace between the two countries would be maintained. A resolution in favour of his candidate was adopted with few dissentients. The committee appointed by the meeting at the Belvidere Tavern report their inability to find a candidate answering to the requirements of the electors who assembled on that occasion. The expense they say is too great, and the prospect of a general election too near.

TRADE AND NAVIGATION RETURNS.—The returns relating to the trade and navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of October have just been published. The total declared value of exports for the month last past is £11,684,910, whilst for the corresponding month of 1859 and 1860 they were respectively £10,717,873 and £11,232,181.

The Census returns, as corrected in the Bureau of Statistics show the population of Canada West to be 1,395,222, and that of Canada East 1,163,666.

## LAW AND POLICE.

TAPPIN V. NUNN.—SEDUCTION.—The following strange case was tried in the Court of Exchequer last week.—The plaintiff in this case was a widow woman, and she claimed damages for the seduction of her daughter, Eliza Tappin. Mr. Huddleston appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Sergeant Ballantine and Mr. J. J. Powell were engaged for the defendant.

Eliza Tappin was called and examined : I am the daughter of the plaintiff. I am twenty three years old. My mother is a dressmaker, living in Pollard's-row, Bethnal-green-road. I was in the employment of Mr. Cope, a flower-maker, for seven or eight years previous to 1859. My mother worked for the wife of Mr. Hayward, who keeps the Eagle Tavern. In December, 1858, I went to the Eagle Tavern, where there is a dance once a week. I went with Miss Bonser, who is since dead. I was there introduced to the defendant by Amelia Bonser as Captain Brown, I have learned since that he is a manufacturer of port and starboard lights for the navy, and that he is a married man. I saw him at the Eagle many times, and danced with him. He took me to Madame Tussaud's on the 28th of December. Miss Bonser was to go, but did not. The defendant paid me attentions. I sincerely believed him to be a single man. He several times took liberties with me, but I told him I would raise an alarm if he did not desist. On the 17th January, 1859, I met him by appointment at Somerset House. He went into Somerset House, and I stayed at the Admiralty door. We went to dine at an hotel in the Strand afterwards. He said he had been at Somerset House on business, and had done more that day than he had ever done in his life before. We then went to a coffee-house and had tea. We then went in a cab to Cheapside, the defendant being so ill from bronchitis that he could not walk. He got out of the cab because the air of the cab was too close. In Bishopsgate-street he said he was so ill he could not walk. He asked me to accompany him to the house of a friend. He took me up into a bedroom, and when I saw it was a bedroom I entered him to let me go. He said if I stayed till he recovered he would let me go as I came. I was overpowered. He seduced me. On my oath I had never before been acquainted with any other man. I saw him on the following Sunday at a place called Harry Levy's, in the Mile-end-road, when he made a laugh of it, but said he would be a good friend. I would hold my tongue. I found I was in the family way in January, 1859. He had then left me. I sent to him, and he came and said it was a bad job, and offered me £5, which I refused. He then asked me to meet him, and said he would see what he could do for me. I met him at the George public-house, in Commercial-road. From thence he went to his solicitor, Mr. Young, who said, when he came back, advised him not to give me any money. I was confined on the 4th October, 1860. He saw me nearly home, and promised to meet me on the following Saturday. He took me to several places, and ultimately to an hotel on Town-hill, where he gave me £10. He made me sign a paper, but I do not know what it contained. My earnings were from £10. to 20s. per week, by working sixteen or eighteen hours a day. The defendant sent me during my confinement £1. I was ill ten weeks, and the last month that I gave me £10. a week.

Cross-examined : I am not now going by the name of Tappin, but that of Mrs. Capus. I have lived under the protection of Mr. Capus for eight months. I met Mr. Capus at the Eagle Tavern. The attorney bringing the action is not employed by Mr. Capus. My child is living with my mother, and is brought by her to see me at Mr. Capus's. Mr. Capus is a general merchant in Leadenhall-street. I had never been to the Eagle for amusement more than three times before I met the defendant at about Christmas, 1858. There are many daughters of working people there.

Mr. Sergeant Ballantine : And many girls of another sort?—Witness : I suppose so. You find them everywhere (a laugh). The only other dancing place I went to was Harry Levy's, and I will swear that for twelve or eighteen months previous to Christmas, 1858, I had not been in the habit of going to dancing saloons.

Mr. Sergeant Ballantine said he had not, like his friend Mr. Huddleston, the pleasant task of defending "injured virtue," but he had to defend a person who, in the situation in which he was placed, would be likely to meet with anything but sympathy. His client was a husband, and had three children, and believed that for these facts the jury would never have heard of this action; but the jury must consider that they had not now to punish immorality in a neighbour, but to consider whether the plaintiff's daughter had by her conduct entitled her mother to damages.

Mr. Justice Willes said he had great difficulty in seeing what the loss of services on the part of the mother was. If no child had been born there would certainly have been no right of action; and it seemed that the turning the daughter out of doors before her confinement was an election on the part of the mother to have done with her, and a determination not to bring forward her claim any more. He then reserved that part for the consideration of the jury.

Mr. Sergeant Ballantine, in continuation, said that in most instances a defendant in a case of this kind had to rely upon a speech of his counsel; but in this case he should call witnesses who would prove conclusively that the plaintiff's daughter had committed gross perjury in giving her evidence. He then detailed the circumstances which he should prove, stating that the defendant, with two friends—the defendant himself, being in joke called Captain Brown, and another of them Captain Albion—(daughter)—met the plaintiff's daughter at a dancing saloon in July, 1851; that she introduced herself to them, and that she was apparently at that time anything but a modest woman.

Towards the conclusion of the learned sergeant's address the baby was brought into court, a proceeding which was declared to be an attempt to excite sympathy, similar to that tried with such success in "Bardell v. Pickwick." The defendant was then examined. He deposed as follows :—

Mr. William Nunn : On the day of Fairlop Fair, in 1858, I was with two friends. We went to the Eagle tavern in the evening. I saw the plaintiff's daughter there on that evening for the first time. She came to our table and asked me to treat her. I did so. She sat down with us drinking between the dances. I was there several times between that night and Christmas. She was generally dancing. She introduced herself to us as Miss Jackson. On the 28th December, I went to a ball masque at the King's Arms with my two friends. I saw the plaintiff's daughter there dancing. I danced with her for the first time. In the course of that evening I left the room and went with her to a house of accommodation. We came back to the ball and she went on dancing. Gave her half a sovereign. When we went home at two in the morning, she asked me if I would meet her next day, and she did meet me in the city, and went with me to Somerset-house. I never went with her to Madame Tussaud's. On that day we went to a brothel in Wych-street, and I again made her present. We afterwards went to the Ebury. I left her at Bishopsgate church, she saying she was going home, and afterwards to the Eagle. Two or three weeks afterwards I met her at the Eagle, and whenever I was there I saw her. On a subsequent occasion she went with me to Somerset-house; and on that occasion we went again to a brothel, as well as on other occasions. About five or six weeks after Christmas, 1858, I went to a brothel kept by a person named King.

The defence being closed, the jury, after considering the matter for a short time, said that they were unanimously of opinion that the defendant was the father of the child, and they assessed the damages at £25.—In answer to his lordship, they added that they did not think that there was what is popularly called a seduction, but that the defendant picked the girl up, and got her with child.

LIMPUS V. THE LONDON GENERAL OMNIBUS COMPANY.—UPSETTING AN OMNIBUS—EXTRAORDINARY DEFENCE.—This was an action in the Court of Exchequer, before Mr. Baron Martin and a special jury, on Saturday, to recover compensation in damages for the misconduct of one of the defendants' drivers in overturning the plaintiff's omnibus. The defendants pleaded not guilty. Mr. J. Seymour, Q.C., Mr. Pearce, and Mr. Martin, were counsel for the plaintiff; Mr. Hawkins, Q.C., and Mr. Lee were counsel for the defendants. It appeared that previous to the 27th August last the plaintiff was running two omnibuses between the City and Isleworth, but about that time he put on a third to run from Hounslow. This gave rise to "nursing" on the part of the defendants' buses, and was being proceeded with on the above day from the City to Kensington, where the accident happened. When near Gore House the plaintiff's driver, Consett, was about to pass the defendant's bus, driven by a man named Whitechurch, when the latter pulled across the road, drove the plaintiff's bus over the bank and upset it, thus doing damage to the vehicle, harness, &c., to the extent of £38 15s. £10. amount claimed. Consett, in cross-examination, said he was aware that nursing was sometimes resorted to, but he did not know that it was a wet nurse. (Laughter.) He knew what "waiting on 'em" was, and pointing out the road, and showing on 'em the way. (Laughter.) He did not adopt the "crawling" that day. There was a continual passing and repassing from the bank up to the time of the accident. Witness was known as "Yorkee." (Laughter.) Defendants' driver did not say to him at the Bank "Yorkee."

what time are you going?" and his replying, "I shall go, when you go." They left the City about two o'clock, and when they got to "White Horse Cellars" he complained to the timekeeper. He was sober at that time, not having had his tea. (Laughter.) Some of the passengers by the plaintiff's omnibus were called, and it further appeared there had been a rush by the conductors for some passenger at Knightsbridge, and it was shortly after that the accident happened. The defendants' driver was committed for a month by Mr. Dayman for careless driving. The defence was that the company were not liable. Instructions were given to all the company's servants to conduct themselves in a becoming manner, and to the drivers to use great care. Mr. Baron Martin, in summing up, said a most extraordinary line of defence had been set up. The driver had come forward and swore that he willfully drove across the road. If that were true, and if any of the passengers had been killed, he would have been guilty of murder. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, damages £25. A bill of exceptions was then tendered as to the learned judge's ruling as to the defendant's liability.

**THE BRIGHTON RAILWAY ACCIDENT.**—Another action arising out of the Brighton railway accident in August last was tried in the Court of Common Pleas on Saturday. The plaintiff, Mr. O'Hara, was a Millard marker in Brighton, and was coming up to London by the train to which the accident happened. The plaintiff was not so hurt but that he was able to walk back to his house in Brighton; but he was severely shaken, and his pie was that since the accident he had never been his own man again. He claimed damages to the amount of £300. The company paid £50 into court as a sufficient sum to compensate for the injuries the plaintiff had sustained, and attempted to show that the illness to which he was now subject was caused by his own irregular habits rather than by the railway accident. They did not succeed, however, in impressing that conviction on the jury, who returned a verdict awarding the plaintiff £130 beyond the £50 paid in the court.

**ALLEGED FORGERY, CONSPIRACY, AND FRAUD.**—William Oliver Gray, of the late firm of Gray Brothers, of Swansea, alkali manufacturers, was brought up with his father, Alexander George Gray, jun., before Alderman Allen, at the Guildhall on Saturday after various remands and charged with forgery, conspiracy, and fraud. Mr. Sleigh, instructed by Messrs. Venning, Naylor, and Robinson, appeared for the prosecution; Mr. Ferry, from the office of Mr. Busman, attended for the younger Gray, and Mr. Preston for the others. The charges against William Oliver Gray were for feloniously forging and uttering a bill of lading for ten casks of alkali, value £80, with intent to defraud Messrs. Lister and Biggs, merchants, of London; for conspiring with Alexander George Gray, jun., and his father, for the purpose of defrauding the same firm; and for obtaining various sums amounting in the whole to about £1,000. The elder Gray, in addition to the charges of conspiracy and defrauding the firm, was also charged with feloniously forging and uttering eight bills of lading, the alterations in which represented fictitious quantities of goods to the amount of £1,000. Some further evidence was taken of a rather formal character, after which Mr. Sleigh said that was the whole of the case for the prosecution. Alderman Allen said, while the case was under remand he was willing to accept bail for both prisoners; but he must now refuse it altogether for the elder Gray. He would, however, accept two surreties of £100 each for the younger Gray. The prisoners were then committed for trial on all the charges.

**PREDMAN V. SHEDDICK.—BREACH OF PROMISE OF MARRIAGE.**—This was an action for breach of promise of marriage, to which the defendant pleaded he did not promise, and that plaintiff had exonerated him for performance of the contract. Mr. Sergeant Parry and Mr. Sharp were counsel for the plaintiff; Mr. Hawkins, and Mr. Henry James, represented the defendant. The plaintiff in this action is a widow, 48 years of age, with six children, three of whom are of age, and resides at Faversham, on an income of £50. The defendant is a retired tradesman, residing at the same place, where he keeps up a snug little establishment, and is in the possession of loaded and household property bringing in £400 a year. He has his chaise and pair for out-door exercise, and his daily carriage ministered by a footman and two maid servants. Last August the widow and the defendant were left a widower, and almost immediately after, he became acquainted with the plaintiff, to whom he manifested his age, and physical condition. In a brief letter he said "he was not up to marry her, and she referred him to her brother-in-law, Mr. Alfred Redman, a butcher in Lambeth. To him she communicated her name, and obtained his consent, so that the defendant was enabled to the position of an accepted suitor. After this interview, the gentleman presented the plaintiff with his photograph, and a book on "Meditation and Prayer." When he came to London to see her brother-in-law he saw her at church vacant, and followed her to town. He took her to the Crystal Palace, to theatres, and other places of amusement, and what was, perhaps, equally gratifying, he spoke of his houses in the Isle of Sheppey, his ships and steamers, and his property at Faversham, promising to make a settlement on her; but in May last the defendant found out he was too old to marry, and he broke off the match, leaving the plaintiff to her remedy at law, which she sought in the present action. Mr. Alfred Redman, the plaintiff's brother-in-law, proved the case for her. In his cross-examination he said the defendant was not very well on his legs, and generally walked with two sticks except when he went courting, when he used only one (laughter). The defendant was a little deaf, but he had a good appetite (great laughter). Witness.—Yes, and a most liberal man (evidently laughing). The defendant had not told him that his surgeon had advised him not to marry, but he gave him to understand that the marriage was not to take place. At this stage of the proceedings the learned counsel consulted, and Mr. Hawkins said it had been arranged to take a verdict for £150.

**FRAUD IN DUBLIN.**—A serious attempt to defraud the Ordnance Office in Ireland was brought to trial last week in Dublin. A clerk in the office appears to have systematically increased the charges of a contractor, sometimes by altering the figures, sometimes by interpolating items of his bill of work which were not originally charged, and which in fact had not been done. The contractor always drew for the higher and fraudulent amount. They were indicted for conspiracy, of which the clerk was convicted, but the contractor was found guilty of fraud only, and, farther, recommended to mercy.

**FIRE IN REIGATE.**—A sad calamity occurred near Reigate, on Saturday morning, in the burning down of a private lunatic asylum, where there were seven patients. Two of these are missing; the fate of one is too certain, as his charred remains were discovered in the ruins; it is supposed the other, in the excitement of the scene, made his escape. There is no clue at present to the origin of the fire.

## ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

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**FRIGHTFUL COAL-PIT ACCIDENT.**—On Thursday an accident of a frightful character occurred at a coal-pit now in course of being sunk by Mr. Crosland in Pontefract-lane, Leeds, by which a workman named Charles Prince was killed and shockingly mutilated. It appears that Mr. Crosland is at present sinking for a new pit, and has sunk the main shaft to the depth of 54 yards. As is usual in such cases, the earth is brought up by tubs, of which there are two, one ascending and the other descending alternately. The deceased, who was employed in sinking the shaft, went to work between twelve and one o'clock on Thursday afternoon, and was noticed to get into the empty or descending tub. Immediately afterwards he was seen clinging to the rope of the ascending tub, and his weight drew the empty tub up to the pulley, and thus the rope on the roller. It became "choked," and would not run, and, after hanging on for a few seconds, the deceased cried out, "I can't hold on any longer," and before the rope could be freed he had released his hold and fallen to the bottom. He was fearfully smashed by the fall, and was killed on the spot.

**THE TRADE OUTRAGE AT SHEFFIELD.**—On Thursday, Wilson Overend, Esq., J.P., attended at the inquest to take the depositions of another of the victims, who is not expected to live, of this diabolical outrage, of which particulars have already appeared. The man Thompson still manifests great indifference to the crime with which he is charged, notwithstanding his identification by Mrs. Wastnidge. The prisoner, when taken into the presence, Mrs. Wastnidge, who was immediately identified by her, not only as "one of the men whom she saw running away, but as a person she had known before." The unclouded state of the night seems to have been of immense importance in the detection of the offender, for Mrs. Wastnidge states that when she saw the prisoner running, the side of his coat caught against something which protruded from the wall, and the coat which the prisoner was wearing at the time of his apprehension was torn on the side indicated. Moreover, on one occasion not long since, he said to her in a threatening manner, "It will be done."

**SERIOUS FIRE.**—A very calamitous fire took place in Upper Ranelagh-street, Pimlico, last week. The premises in which the catastrophe broke out belonged to Messrs. Holland and Sons, cabinet makers and upholsterers. They were entirely destroyed, and many of

the adjoining houses were more or less entirely injured. Most of the sufferers were fortunately insured.

**MURDER IN PARIS.**—A most daring murder was committed in broad daylight on Monday afternoon at a small eating-house, No. 9, Rue St. Placide, Faubourg St. Germain. The house belongs to a brigadier in the police force, and the business was principally managed by his wife assisted by her niece, a little girl eleven years old. At half-past four in the afternoon a nephew of the brigadier watched an opportunity when he was out, cut the throats of the woman and her niece, and made off with a sum of £1,500, which he knew the family had lately received from the country. The husband, on returning to the house after a short absence, found nobody in the front shop, but on going into the kitchen he stumbled over the bodies of his wife and her niece, both quite dead. He at once suspected his nephew, and the latter was arrested at his lodgings with £1,500 upon him; he had taken the precaution to change his clothes, but had not washed his hands, which were red with the blood of his victims.

**COLLISION AT SEA.—TEN LIVES LOST.**—The Waterford Company's steamer Zephyr arrived from Liverpool on Saturday morning, and reported having been in collision off Puffin Island, with a French steamer, Comptesse de Fréville, from Nantes to Liverpool, in ballast, when the latter immediately sank. The captain, mate, and eight of the crew were lost. Six were saved. The Zephyr sustained no injury.

**COLLISION ON THE LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.**—On Saturday morning about two o'clock considerable alarm was manifested at Bury and Wootton, from information received at both stations simultaneously that a most serious collision had taken place on the line about midway between those two places, and that the line was completely choked up both up and down. Immediate assistance was, of course, forwarded, and upon reaching the spot where the accident had happened, and upon the institution of inquiries by the officials of the guards, drivers, and stokers, it appeared that two trains, one following the other to town—the one laden with live cattle, and the other with luggage—came into collision from some unexplained cause at present. The goods train dashed into the trucks laden with live cattle, killing several of them, and mutilating others in a horrible manner, literally tearing them limb from limb. Large quantities of valuable goods were screwed over the line, and these with the broken and misplaced wagons, &c., caused the entire way to be blocked up instantaneously. The engine-driver and others in charge of the trains escaped almost miraculously, and we are glad to find that no loss of human life has taken place.

**A NEW YORK MURDER.**—An American paper gives terrible details of the circumstances connected with the murder of a German, named Feller. He had recently arrived at New York, and, during the voyage thither, had formed a dishonourable connection with a fellow-passenger named Albertine Phlau. This woman introduced him to her sister, a Mrs. Marks, residing in the city. He was known to have a good sum of money and jewellery. After a time he wished to discard Miss Phlau, whereupon Mrs. Marks threatened his life. He removed from his lodgings, and in a few days disappeared, and nothing was heard of him till his wounded body was found floating in the water near Port Monmouth, New Jersey. Miss Phlau and her sister were apprehended, and some of Feller's property found upon them. The first-named committed suicide in prison, and Mrs. Marks also attempted it, but a self-inflicted wound was discovered in time to prevent death. A young Jew, named Ratzki, believed to be a confederate, has absconded.

**AN EXTRAORDINARY MURDER.**—A tragic event occurred at La Jonay, about a league from Nantes, at the country seat of M. Albert, a merchant of that city. That gentleman and his third son, a young man of nineteen, after passing the day at La Jonay, were about to return to Nantes, and about four in the afternoon, the son, by the father's orders, told their coachman to bring the carriage to the door. In answer to this command, the coachman, René Gremaud, whose conduct during the three months he held the situation had always been irreproachable, insolently replied, "Your horses and carriage are mine," and walked away. While waiting, M. Albert began to play a game at billiards, and were a few moments after greatly alarmed by seeing Gremaud enter the room with a double-barrelled gun, which he fixed at the son, who received the whole charge in his right side under the arm. The assailant then fired the other barrel of the pistol, but missed his master, and a struggle ensued, in which the coachman drove his master and knocked him about the head with the butt end of the gun until he was quite insensible. The man then fled, but some hours later was arrested by a party of gendarmes in a neighbouring wood. M. Albert, senior, though seriously wounded, is not in danger; but there is not much hope that the son will survive the dreadful wound he received. When arrested, Gremaud exclaimed, "I merit death and am ready to die!"—Goliath.

**PLUNGING A WHALE.**—We are sorry to learn that a very daring exploit of whaling has been perpetrated a few miles below the Nore. The ship Regis, containing a cargo of tallow, which it had brought from Chonadale, was stranded on a sandbank on the right of the river. A number of boatsmen proceeded to the wreck, the whale being on the side of the ship, and used every endeavour to get out the tail. The men so engaged, when remonstrated with, refused to desist, and continued their work of planks until they had succeeded, together with a fill of iron, in disengaging the tail from the whale, when the unfortunate prisoners had to pay a fine of £50 each, or suffer three months' imprisonment.

**A BOHEMIAN TRAGEDY.**—The *Journal de Francfort* relates the following tragic story.—A few days since a young man about twenty-four years of age arrived at the hotel Archduke Stephen, at Prague, where on the following day he was joined by a young female about eighteen. They supped in the common room, and appeared in good spirits, and on the following morning breakfasted, and after paying their bill retired to their room. Some hours after a servant on entering was horrified at seeing the young man lying on the floor in a pool of blood and the female seated at the table pale to death, with her head leaning on her arm. An alarm was given by the servant, and some persons entering, the young girl raised her head and the blood was seen flowing profusely from her breast. The police were then sent for, and the two young persons were conveyed to the hospital, where the female died in the course of the night, the young man lying in a hopeless state. A letter was found on the table written by the latter, which stated that they had determined "to die together, but not saying for what reason."

## BIRMINGHAM CATTLE AND POULTRY SHOW AND EXHIBITION OF DOGS.

This show which opened on Monday may be characterised as fully up to the mark in every department, while the superiority of some of the classes, and the presence of at least one entirely new feature, places the whole ahead of what has been seen in previous years, and many new exhibitors have competed with those of older renown for the large prizes in pounds sterling, the numerous medals of honour, and the nine splendid cups, including the magnificent cup of the President, with his heads of oxen and figure of Fame, one of the art-manufactures of Messrs. Mapplebeck and Lowe.

England's pastures are by no means grazed exclusively by shorthorns; and here, at the midland counties' show, the most prominent cattle class is generally that of the substantial, handsome Herefords. This year, however, they are not in such predominance or evincing such satisfactory progress as we find in the shorthorn classes. The Hereford oxen are nothing very extraordinary, excepting Mr. Heath's (first prize), which is certainly an exceedingly fine beast, of great depth and width of fore-quarter, and loin and hind quarter heavily covered with first-rate beef—the girth 9 feet. Mr. Aldworth's is also good. Mr. Shirley's steer obtains the extra prize as the best of the breed, but, though compact, is not anything like so good in form as we have seen on other occasions. The best Hereford cow is much too patchy, though an uncommonly heavy weigher.

The shorthorns number 45 out of a total of 104 cattle. The oxen and steers, often rather weak in point of merit, though always pretty strong in number, exhibit this year a marked improvement. Earl Spencer's (first prize) ox, girth 9 feet, is a well-shaped, well-fed, meritorious animal; Mr. Swinnerton's very fine; Mr. Baker's good; the second prize beast of Earl Spencer's is great, but with an unlevel back. The steers form a very fine

class. We have Mr. Holland's, Mr. Langton's, the Duke of Beaufort's, and Mr. Sanders's, "commended;" Mr. Wiley's (second prize) is not first-rate, and plays second fiddle very ineffectively to the pride of the show, Mr. Taylor's first prize gold medal steer. In form this animal is almost theoretically perfect—barrel that you might estimate by the tape for weight with a likelihood of correctness; a faultless back, rib, and chine, a girth of eight feet eight inches, a good round, fine bone, beautiful quality of flesh, a kindly light roan coat, and handsome head. Distinguished as the best shorthorn and best male animal in the cattle classes, it has nevertheless failed to win the *summum honorarium* of the linkkeepers' plate, which singles out the best animal, irrespective of sex. It is understood that great pains were bestowed in the adjudication; and we cannot say whether the somewhat long and down-curved horns disagreed with the fancy of the judges, or whether it was an act of gallantry on their part to hand over the silver to a lady—namely, a stately, well-bred, daintily-fattened, and unexceptionable polled black Scotch cow of Mr. McCombie. A Scotch breed carrying off the gold medal as best of the sex in the hall—much more, topping the show of males and females together, is a rare, perhaps unexampled, triumph at English fat-stock shows. The present cow is certainly wonderful for a Galloway—back level, girth 8 feet 7 inches, legs short, quality prime, but nearly five years old. The short-horn cows are always good; Mr. Faulkner's first-prize cow, however, though exceedingly good, lacks that handsome appearance, that perfection of hindquarter, and some other points which are indispensable to a good animal, no matter how beautiful in quality of meat. Lord Hill's (second prize), his Royal Highness's, and Lord Leigh's are good, but not extraordinary cows. The heifers are a good class, in which Mr. Shaw and the Earl of Badnor take the prizes; but we have seen a much better display in former years.

Turning to the Devons, we are at once struck by the smallness of frame upon which the compact, pretty little animals develop beef of splendid quality. His Royal Highness is the winner of one first prize and two second prizes; Earl Howe and Mr. Heath taking the others.

To fully appreciate the merits of a long-horn, you must taste his superbly-marbled, richly-flavoured flesh; but the profit, depending upon early maturity, lightness of inferior and offal parts, and other characteristics of more thrifty breeds, will outweigh mere considerations of epicurean relish, and leave the quaint long-horn as an animal behind the times, though unquestionably of great value for dairy purposes. Only cows are shown; the prizes won by Mr. Burberry and Mr. Cox. Mr. Burberry's is the true type, with the long curving horns depressed; but seven or eight years is rather too long to be feeding an animal for market. Is there any mixed blood in Mr. Cox's good first-prize cow?

Among the cross-breeds, Mr. Pimm's gigantic beast is a startling fact. Surely the immense development of bone cannot be the result of using too freely a notorious condimental food!

The Scotch breeds are unusually well represented; and Mr. McCombie (first prize) Aberdeen ox is of great merit—the girths no less than Mr. Shaw.

The Welsh cattle are not numerous, though good; but Mr. Way's appears more like a Dutch ox than a native of the Principality.

The sheep are a prime show, and, though the fault of unfairness in clipping is not so glaring as on previous occasions, much yet remains to be done before we see sheep as they ought to be. Mr. Foggan and Mr. Walmley for Leicesters, and Mr. West and Mr. Davis for long-wools, are the successful exhibitors.

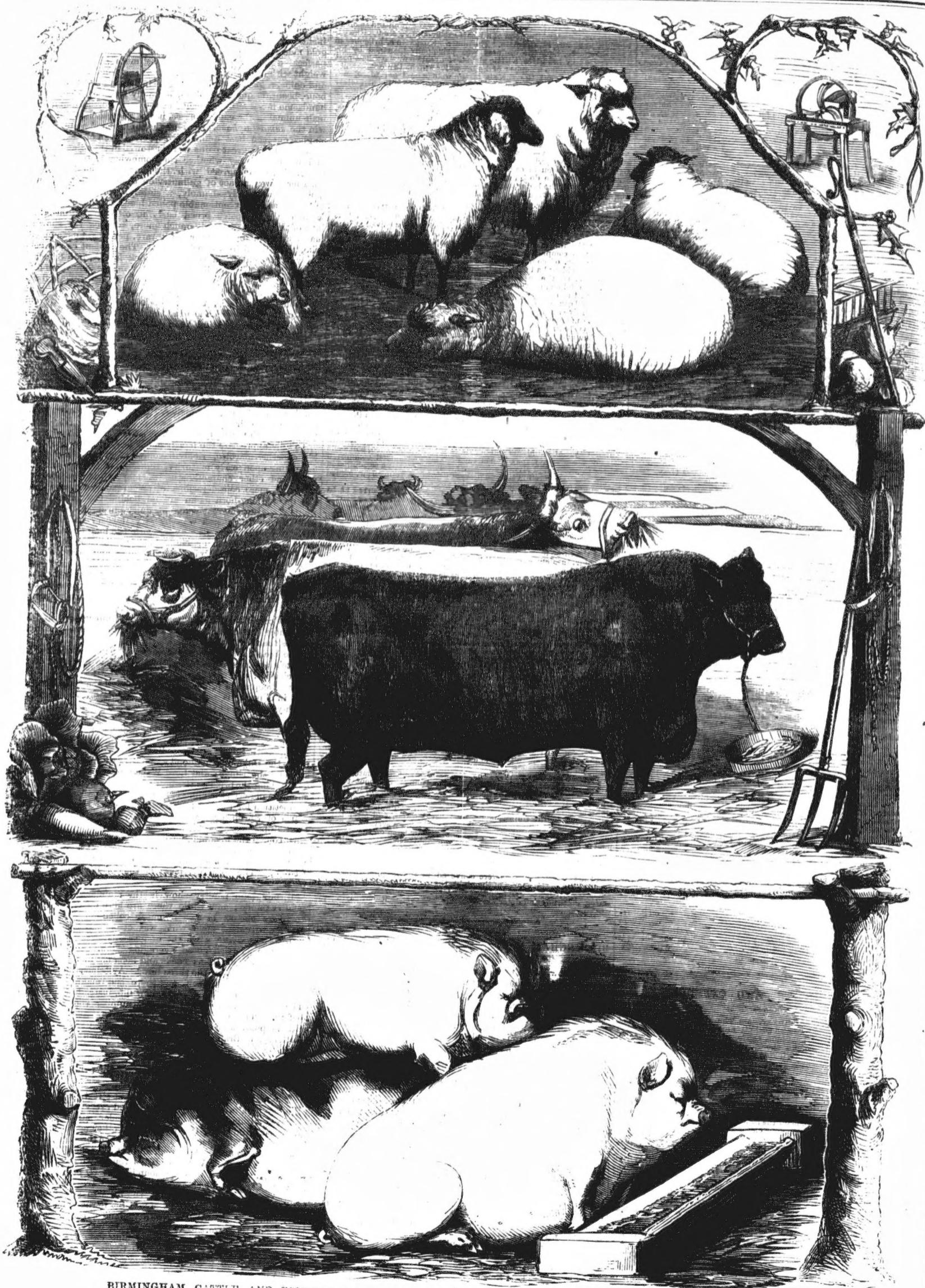
The South Downs are exceedingly fine. The Earl of Radnor, the Duke of Richmond's, and Lord Walsingham's are splendid shearlings; and Lord Walsingham's pen of two-year-olds, taking the prize as the best of the breed, are a study for admirers of perfect symmetry, beauty and quality. The final competition for the chief award lay between these sheep and a pen of Shropshires a year younger, much to the credit of the Shropshires.

Of course the pigs make a grand feature in the Exhibition, comprising fewer monstrosities than usual, but a general excellence in quality, and miracles of early maturity and high feeding. The grandest class is that of Berkshire breeding pigs.

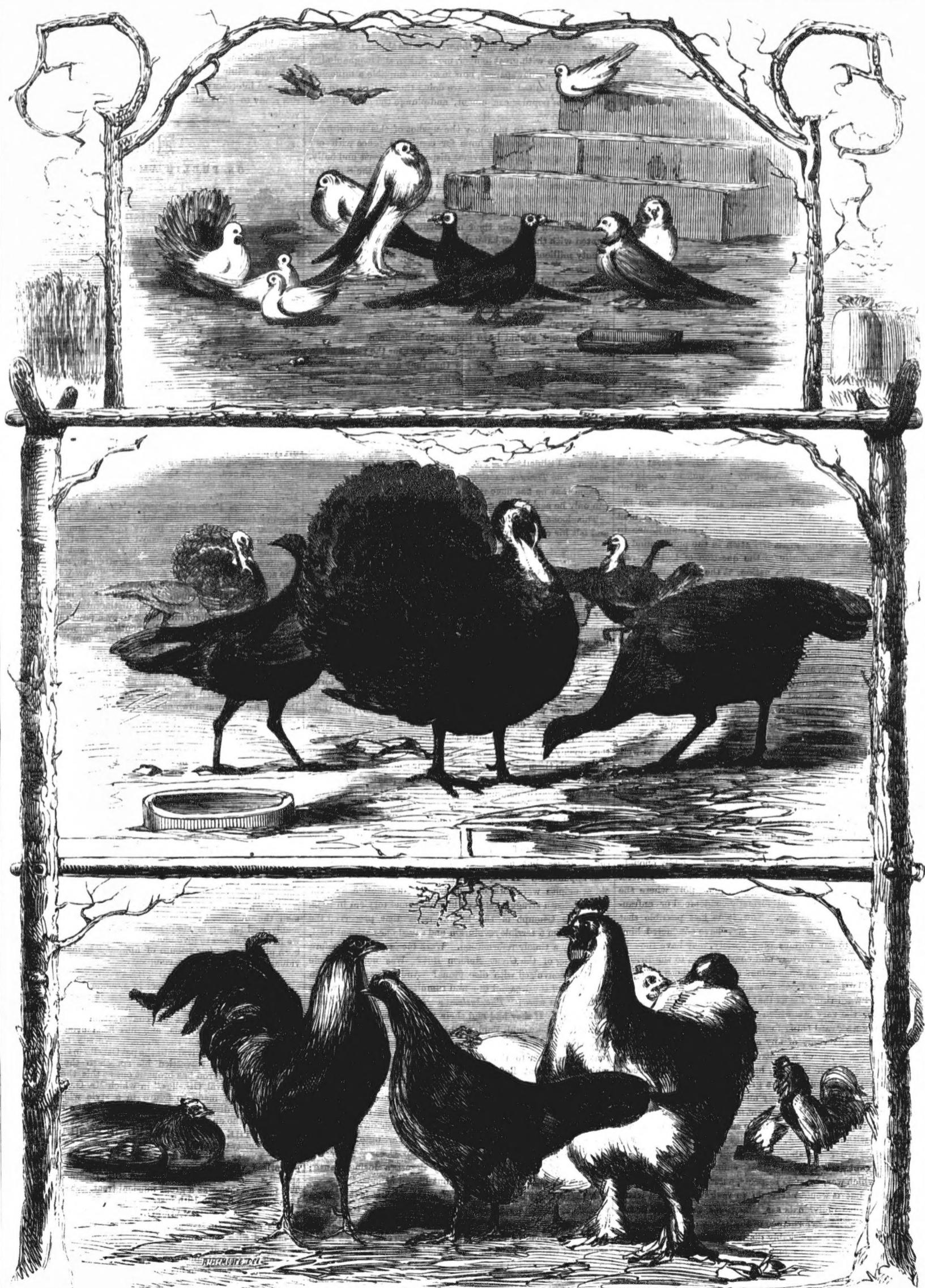
Birmingham poultry show is the standard for the whole poultry public; and while there are here no defective birds, there are classes in this immense collection which evince a real improvement upon what was deemed perfection in past years. The average weight of geese is greater—the white, gray, and mottled geese averaging 20lb. each. There are many turkeys of 18lb.; cocks and hens not in the prize list at all average 45lb. for the three birds. Aylesbury ducks average (for 21 birds) 7lb. each, and there is a remarkable increase in the weight of Rouen ducks, now 6lb. instead of 5lb. apiece. The game bantams are of greater number and beauty than before. The Cochins are coming again into favour, and Brahmapootras form a large class. The large size of Dorkings, Cochins, and Brahmins is also astonishing, many weighing 14lb. each.

Of course all the sight-seers this week will sooner or later "go to the Dogs," for this new order of exhibition has an interest and charm for everyone.

The extensive building in Tenant-street, not far from Bingley-hall, is admirably fitted up, and every arrangement of the exhibition is well conducted, under Messrs. Burdett, Attwood, Bradfurd, Cartwright, and other active managers. We cannot afford space for comments upon the various classes, including 530 dogs. We admired most Mr. Jennings's aristocratic bloodhound, Viscount Hill's rough wiry-coated otter hounds, the classes of deer hounds, the 50 pointers, Sir J. Rivett Carnac's black-and-tan setters, Mr. Wakelin's fine retriever, the Clumber spaniels, the Russian setter with two young puppies, Mr. Phillips's Mount St. Bernard blood-hound, Mr. Gantley's mastiff, the Newfoundland's, the only pug (a breed said to be worth £25 as pups), the marvellously mimikin black-and-tan toy terriers (one weighing only 3lb., yet looking as consequential as any dog of 20 times his substance and dimensions,) and Captain Wingfield's Chinese dog, taken out of a Chinese temple—a sort of long silky-haired pretty pug. Scotch terriers are not here in anything like perfection; and, though fox-hounds are pretty good, we do not see a good type of our favourite and famous English greyhound.



BIRMINGHAM CATTLE AND POULTRY SHOW—REPRESENTATION OF THE PRIZE ANIMALS. (SEE PAGE 135.)



BIRMINGHAM CATTLE AND POULTRY SHOW—REPRESENTATION OF THE PRIZE ANIMALS. (SEE PAGE 135.)

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

F.—The American ship President was captured by the Endymion, January 15, 1815.

A RESIDENT.—We have had frequent cases of a similar kind in London. Two old houses in Houghton-street, Clare-market, fell suddenly to the ground, and sixteen persons were killed or wounded. This was in 1796; and an historian tells us that, for fifty years preceding, the falling of houses was as frequent and as destructive in London to human life as fire.

NOTES.—Townsend, the lieutenant of a privateer, was executed for murder on the high seas, by ordering a gun to be fired into a neutral ship, which killed the captain. This was in November, 1751.

A READER.—The first Admiralty Court in England was instituted by Edward III. in 1357.

A.—We are sorry we cannot oblige you; however well disposed, we always must be to oblige the supporters of this paper. Our honest opinion—and an honest one it must be—would do you no good.

A FOXITE.—No; you are quite mistaken. Mr. Fox's motion for the termination of the American War was made on the 12th of June, 1781; and he then characterised the war as "a series of inefficient victories or disgraceful defeats—victories obtained over men struggling in the holy cause of liberty." The motion was negatived by 172 to 99. Lord Chatham, in opposition to the Duke of Richmond's motion, April 7, 1778, for the recognition of the independence of the American colonies, said:—"I rejoice that the grave has not closed upon me, that I am still alive to lift up my voice against the dismemberment of this ancient and most noble monarchy." He was replied to with great respect by the Duke of Richmond, when, on attempting to rise again, he fell back in a convulsive fit, and was carried out of the house. When Dr. Franklin asked Lord Stormont, our Ambassador at the French Court, to propose an exchange of prisoners with America, his lordship replied:—"The King's Ambassador receives no application from 'rebels,' unless they come to implore his Majesty's mercy." £3,815 had been subscribed in England for 924 American prisoners.

A SUBSCRIBER.—In 1796, a verdict was given for £100, against Daniel Stuart, of the "Morning Chronicle," for sending a forged French newspaper, containing false intelligence, to the "Telegraph" office. The matter being inserted in the "Telegraph," damaged the reputation of the paper. Stuart's joke was rather a costly one.

The GOSSIP OF THE WEEK, from the pressure of other matter, is unavoidably crushed out.

## THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1861.

THE great event of the week—perhaps, indeed, the great event of the year, for such it may possibly turn out to be—is the capture by Captain Wilks, of the San Jacinto, of Messrs. Slidell and Mason, Commissioners to England and France from the Southern States of America, on board her Majesty's mail steamer Trent. It is impossible for any such circumstance to occur without producing great irritation in the public mind of England, quite independently of the question of legality, and accordingly almost the whole nation, at the first intelligence, assumed a most threatening and warlike aspect. At a few minutes' notice there was an indignation meeting in the Cotton Sale-room at Liverpool—the place, of course, of all others, where the feeling of hostility to the Northern States was most likely to be carried to a sudden and violent extreme. A calm and dispassionate judgment on the matter was not to be looked for in such a quarter, and accordingly almost every voice there was for war, while yet only one side of the case had been presented, or before one word of explanation could be offered. Even here, however, two or three individuals remembered the old English maxim of "Fair play's a jewel," and insisted that before the British Government was imperatively called upon to make a declaration of war to the knife, it would be as well to hear what our American cousins might be able or willing to say or do in the way of explanation or apology; and before another sun had gone down upon our wrath all England began to view the matter calmly and more reasonably. The first question to be considered was the purely legal one, and it was soon admitted that, in point of international law, the American captain had, to a certain extent, some high authorities in his favor. He had the clear right of search. But, oddly enough, it was decided to be his fault or mistake that he did not arrest the ship as a prize, and carry her into some port where she might have been legally and formally condemned or enfranchised by Admiralty judges. Now, it is just possible that Captain Wilks, however rudely he may have conducted himself, according to our notions of propriety, may have thought that he was showing courtesy and consideration to the British people, by confining his proceedings to the Southern Commissioners, and letting our steamer take her way to her own port. It is an awkward thing for us that we have been the greatest sticklers for the very law which now tells against us; and it is an equally awkward thing for the Americans that they have always denied the right of any nation to search for and take its own subjects out of a neutral vessel. Our Government, guided by the Crown lawyers, has decided that the proceedings of the San Jacinto were a gross outrage on the British flag, and will demand an apology and reparation; but we suspect that the American Government may urge some arguments in reply to which it would be more easy to answer with hard words and with harder shot, than with sober logic. It seems that all we have reasonably to complain of is the manner in which the captain of the San Jacinto enforced his right, or did his duty, which was, in some respects, sufficiently offensive and provoking; but it would never do to make war with a whole nation, because individuals are sometimes unpolished or impolite, in the strict performance of their duty; and Americans generally are not so remarkably distinguished for urbanity and delicacy of manners as to justify any surprise when we meet with specimens of their nation that may seem a little boorish, brusque, and overbearing in their intercourse with strangers. The *Times* well observes, that if a rude fellow claims his rights coarsely, we must yet give him his rights; and if we would not find ourselves in the wrong, we must not quarrel with him

on account of his ill manners; and if this be the case in private circles, still more so is it in matters involving the interests of great nations.

We are glad to see almost the whole Liberal press discussing this question with great temper, moderation, and magnanimity, while the Tory newspapers, now in so contemptible a minority, and of such limited influence, are doing their little best to fan the flame of popular excitement, and plunge the nation into a profitless war.

It is not easy to prophesy the upshot of this unfortunate affair. But we earnestly hope for continued peace with our cousin in spite of his too obvious disposition to boast and bully. England is not inclined to assist the cause of the Southern slaveholders if she can help it, or to take advantage of the present difficulties of the Northerners, towards whom, in spite of our cotton interests, she has hitherto been secretly more sympathetic than towards their opponents, whose cause seems tainted with the sin so hateful to a free people, who once spent twenty millions sterling to emancipate the slaves in the West Indies.

The probability is that the Federal Government, if it have the courage to resist a popular feeling, though it will justify the proceedings of the San Jacinto with clever argumentation, will yet condescend to express its deep regret that England should have thought her flag insulted, and will adopt some means of appeasing her anger; for the rulers of the Northern States cannot but see that they are not at this moment in a condition to cope with a strong enemy outside, while there is so potent and troublesome a foe to contend with at home.

The Queen's messenger is already on his way with a dispatch to Lord Lyons instructing him to demand the disavowal of the act of Commander Wilks and the surrender of Messrs. Mason and Slidell. The language is said to be firm but courteous. The *Times* says Commander Wilks has expressed his opinion that he has done right—and if he has done wrong he can only be cashiered for it.

This looks as if he had not acted on positive instructions, and felt his own individual responsibility.

TORY orators and tory editors inform us that there is now a decided re-action in their favor. And why?—because, say they, *the people are quiet*! And why are they quiet? because, say they, there is no longer an uneasy craving for liberal measures or liberal rulers; the people being satisfied with the prospect of getting back their old and tried friends the tories! This is a pretty fair specimen of tory truth and logic.

Let us inquire seriously what can be the possible cause or motive of a re-action. Can any one pretend that the tories seek the re-possession of power for the sake of their own proper principles or with the least hope or intention of carrying them out? Can they deny that the loaves and fishes of office are their only object? Virtually they do not deny it. In fact they openly profess themselves ready to be more liberal than the liberals themselves, and that is their sole claim to popular favor. They have dropped the mask of hypocrisy which has been said to be the compliment which vice pays to virtue. They do not ask for a change of measures but a change of men.

We call these people *tories*—but they have ceased to be entitled to that name, for they have deserted their own losing cause. Ashamed of their old title they now call themselves *conservatives*, but neither are they strictly entitled even to that appellation. It is quite clear that the tendencies of their old principles were both obstructive and destructive. In the life-and-death struggle between liberalism and toryism in 1832, it was the triumph of the liberal party that preserved the country from a terrible revolution and saved our national institutions by a timely reformation. Were *the people quiet* before the passing of the Great Reform Bill? Was not the whole kingdom convulsed with discontent? And yet even then—in the midst of the dreadful din and tumult—the old watchwords of the Tories were: "*The system works well*," "*Let us leave well alone*." If they had had their will—if their counsels had been followed—would England have been what she is now? It was the obstinate retention and advocacy of old abuses that brought her to the brink of a frightful revolution from which the Great Reform Bill saved her, yet that bill was strenuously opposed by the Tories, who until very lately have opposed all other liberal measures rendered necessary by the progress of society, and the advance of intellect and science.

But they have at last been made aware of their own humiliating position—a tory being likened to Dame Partington mopping back the advancing tide of the Atlantic Ocean. They are ashamed of their old title: they desert a losing cause: they oppose not liberal measures but liberal men.

If there really be a reaction, of what nature is it? Does thenation desire to retrace its steps—to go back to that happy state of things, which, according to the old tories *worked so well*? Is it confessed that we ought to cancel all those great measures which have been passed during the last thirty years in defiance of toryism?

The only reaction one can discover is within the tory camp itself. There is no reaction outside. They who once scorned or defied the people, are now ready to flatter and promise them—they who once maintained that all liberal

measures were dangerous and ill-judged, now tell the people that if they, the tories, get again into office, they are ready to do more for them than has ever been done for them by the most liberal government that England has yet known. Are such politicians to be trusted or respected, who for the sake of office are willing to sacrifice their own principles and the supposed interests of the nation—who are like Swiss mercenaries ready to fight under any colors for good pay and pro-vender?

## Notes

## ON PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

"All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players."—*A. You Like It.*

## ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA.

MR. BALFE's new three-act opera of "The Puritan's Daughter" was produced here on Saturday last. We are told that it was enthusiastically received by a full house on the first night. We had not the pleasure to be present on its first performance, but on Monday, its second night, we most gladly witnessed its triumphant success; for every Englishman must, or at least ought, to feel an interest in our national music, and wish well to composers, singers, and performers of all kinds who help to show to foreigners that we have some pretensions in the musical drama that do not deserve their scorn. The public patronage, therefore, of our English Opera, whenever it deserves it, is not a matter of taste only, but also of patriotic feeling; for, proud as we justly are of the superiority of our poets and philosophers over those of other nations, we should like, if we could, to boast of the same supremacy in other departments of the Fine Arts. Mr. Balfe has done his best to save us from the humiliation of being indebted to our neighbours for all our good music. His opera is one that the English need not be ashamed of. It is, indeed, a triumph. It is intrinsically a fine lyric drama, and has been produced under every possible advantage. The company at this theatre is a very noble one, and does full justice to the piece. Everything is well arranged, even to the scenery, and dresses, and decorations, and all the stage business under the superintendence of Mr. Leigh Murray.

Miss Louisa Pyne as the *Puritan's Daughter*, perhaps never acted or sung in a more delightful manner. In the emotional passages she thrilled the hearts of the audience with an exquisite combination of musical and dramatic pathos, enchanting both eye and ear with her earnest and graceful gestures, and her lark-like sweetness, strength, and intonation. The soprano ballad in the second act, "How well I recollect the night," was a perfect delicious morceau. The truth and tenderness of the feeling, the delicacy and refinement, the liquid sweetness and silver-toned distinctness of the vocalisation could only be done full justice to by a power of description as perfect as her own musical execution. It was followed by a burst of most earnest applause, and a couple of bouquets were cast at the feet of the triumphant artiste. The ballad of "My father dear! though years whirr by" or as it is called in the advertisements, "A loving father's heart" is also a musical gem, and Mr. Balfe must have been delighted to find it so exquisitely rendered on Monday night by our English Prima Donna, for he was present on the occasion, and was twice called for by the audience.

These two lyrics were the favourites of the evening with the audience generally, but the fair singer, perhaps, achieved her greatest success in the judgment of scientific critics by her execution of the rondo finale "With emotion past all telling." It was wonderfully brilliant. But it rather tickled the ear than touched the heart. Some parts of the music were so difficult, that to borrow a smart saying of Dr. Johnson's, we almost wished it were impossible. However, after such an exhibition of musical skill and science no one could pretend to doubt that Miss Louisa Pyne is quite as able to interest and astonish the most fastidious scientific critic as to fascinate or stir the eyes and hearts of the multitude.

Mr. Harrison both acted and sang with his usual success, and to say this is to accord him the highest commendation. Mr. Santley's "Oh would that I had died ere now," was nobly sung, and so also was his "Why should ermine robes, forsooth," which by the way is excellently written by Mr. Bridgeman, the author of the words of the opera. The sentiment is manly, and the style simple and energetic. We regret that we have not space to give more particulars, or we should have been glad to offer our tribute of applause to many other individuals of a most efficient company.

## STRAND THEATRE.

M. Fechter's theatrical career in London has certainly not been an obscure one, however much it may have divided public opinion. He has been a bone of contention to the critics, the subject of conversation and dispute in drawing-rooms and taverns, and has been even ridiculed by his brother actors upon the stage. We see boards in the streets advertising a rival "to the pet Othello in Oxford-street," Mr. Mathews has travestied his speech to the Senate, and now Mr. H. J. Byron has brought out at this theatre a piece called "The Rival Othellos," in which Mr. G. V. Brooke and M. Fechter are made to figure in a style which, though it would be very disagreeable to themselves to witness, is very diverting to the audience.

## THE SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.

This Society commenced their winter season on Friday night last. Exeter Hall was densely crowded. The programme comprised the music written by Mendelssohn for Racine's sacred drama of "Athalie," and the Dettingen *Te Deum*. The performance was a great musical treat. The "Messiah" is announced for the 13th inst.

## THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY.

This gallery (in Great George-street, Westminster) has re-opened with some fine accessions; amongst them, portraits of Whitfield and John Wesley. It will be recollect that Lord Macaulay was instrumental in getting up this exhibition, and the catalogue was from his own pen, and is highly interesting.

King Victor Emanuel has just nominated Prince Humbert president of the National Rifle Society, and Generals Garibaldi, Cialdini, and d'Angrogna, vice-presidents.

## CHARLES MATHEWS AT HOME.

We are sorry that a press of matter last week compelled us to postpone our notice of this entertainment to the present number. The following remarks refer to the first night's performance only. On that occasion Mr. Charles Mathews did not seem to feel himself quite at home. He was so obviously nervous and uncomfortable, that his own distress was a distress to others. He evidently felt extremely doubtful of the success of his new adventure; and before the close of the performance he expressed a hope that he should be less "nervous" when he next met his friends and patrons. Seated on a chair near the footlights, he commenced his story in a timid and awkward manner; and, indeed, throughout the evening must have seemed to strangers a comparatively poor actor—a mere shame-faced histrio novice—that is, *while telling his own tale in his own person*; but the moment he assumed another character he appeared quite another person, forgetting everything but his new part, and acting with great ease and truth and spirit. We do not wonder at his want of self-confidence when speaking in his own proper person, conscious as he must have been that the egotism of his entertainment was in rather questionable taste, or might be so regarded by many of his audience, if not by the public generally. And, indeed, we must confess that our own opinion is decidedly condemnatory of his tedious revelations of his own speculations and failures, and difficulties and duns and humiliations; and it cannot be denied that the purely egotistical portion of his "At Home" was dull and distasteful. We know not to whom we are to attribute the authorship of his text, but it certainly wanted life and piquancy. His celebrated father's "At Homes" were written, we believe, by Horace Smith, one of the well-known authors of "The Rejected Addresses." They sparkled with wit; and the elder Mathews gave every joke its full effect. Mathews the younger, for so we must call him, though he is nearly sixty years of age, is about as inferior to what his father was as a *minnie*, as Charles Kean is to what Edmund Kean was as a tragedian. But both the living Mathews and the living Kean are men of no common mark. We are old enough to remember Edmund Kean's *Othello*, and "the old Scotch woman" of the elder Mathews, who was not only a first-rate mimic, but a clever ventriloquist; his ventriloquism often enabled him to give prodigious effect to his truly Italian personations. We believe Mathews the younger has not this faculty or accomplishment, yet in two or three of his parts he disguised his natural voice well, and reminded us very pleasantly indeed of his gifted father. His Italian Street Preacher, and *Rinaldo la Napoletana* were most admirably characteristic, though the foreign language somewhat lessened the effect of such truthful representations, as far as concerned at least three-fourths of the audience. Mr. Mathews was capitally supported by his lady, who exhibited more self-possession than her husband, and acted her several parts with great spirit and perfect truthfulness. In the course of the evening Mr. Mathews gave a caricature of M. Fechter's address to the Senate in the part of *Othello*, and alluded to that actor's performance of our national plays "in broken English." It was highly amusing; but perhaps this ridicule of a fellow-actor and a foreigner was in as questionable taste as his own egotisms on matters that ought to have been buried in oblivion—or, at least, kept for the ears of private friends, or preserved for his biographer. The entertainment, all taken altogether, was a very delightful one, was diversified with a succession of very beautiful scenic representations, illustrative of the actor's foreign travel. The house was crowded. This was to be expected on a first night; but Mr. Mathews aims at prolonged success, and wishes to please all his auditors, he must greatly curtail the personal narrative. He is so great a public favourite as a light comedian (and most deservedly so), that we should be extremely sorry if anything we have said by way of objection should keep one lover of amusement from his "At Home"; but we are nothing if not honest, and we cannot be induced to applaud outwardly that which we must inwardly condemn. If Mr. Mathews will but retrench the personal narrative, which affords him so few opportunities to display his best powers, and will introduce a few more English or American personifications, which are so much better appreciated here than Continental characters with a foreign language, he will assuredly have a crowded house for many months to come. We heartily wish him such success. The scene of the "Tarantella Napoletana," or Neapolitan dance, by Mr. and Mrs. Mathews, is given by our Artist in another part of this paper. Both the dances exhibited grace, spirit, and skill in this part of the evening's entertainment, and certainly Mr. Mathews carried his years as lightly as any other man could do of less than half his age. He looked as if some enchantress had restored his youth.

## ROBIN'S SOIREE FANTASTIQUES.

Monsieur Robin, the French Wizard, continues to astonish and delight his audiences at the Egyptian Hall with feats that, in a mysterious age and country, would be attributed to supernatural power, either satanic or divine. But the days of miracles are over—at least, for civilised Europe; and we are now content to admit that an individual may perform wonders that surpass all ordinary comprehension, and yet be no inspired agent of either the Deity or the devil. M. Robin's tricks are performed with infinite grace and facility. He has the art to hide his art. One of his happiest performances consists in borrowing a number of rings from the spectators, and flinging them in a heap at an artificial tree. At once every ring but one finds a place in the heart of a blossom. The missing ring is then called for, when a little winged Cupid makes his way out of the tree, bearing it upon his finger. The evening's entertainment is closed with some most beautiful and instructive scientific experiments. We recommend our young readers especially to visit the Egyptian Hall without delay. There are morning performances on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

The budget of the city of Berlin amounts to nearly four millions of thalers (31. 75c. each). The budgets of twenty-four sovereign states out of thirty-six in the Germanic Confederation are less than that of the Prussian capital.

An idea of the immense strength now wielded by the Government may be gathered from the fact that the volunteer force in the field numbers fully 480,000 men—having but 20,000 more to be recruited to reach the number authorized by Congress.—*New York Times*.

## Literature.

"Of the things which man can do or make here below, by far the most momentous, wonderful, and worthy, are the things we call Books."

—T. CARLYLE.

*Miscellaneous Poems.* By JOHN CRITCHLEY PRINCE. Author of "Hours with the Muses," &c. Manchester: John Heywood.

THERE is some cleverness and much good feeling in this little book, which a century ago might have won for the author a name in literature. But so many merely clever books are now published that none but works of high and rare genius have any chance of attracting or retaining much general notice. Authorship is so common, that to have written a book is no longer a distinction, just as in these days of universal locomotion a traveller is no longer a lion. The night has quite passed away in which the most insignificant stars were visible, when even the Pomfrets and Sprats twinkled conspicuously. "The mob of gentlemen who write with ease" must limit their ambition to the domestic circle. They may print their volumes, indeed, at "the request of friends," but they can hardly be said to publish them. The printed tomes remain "as good as manuscript." If any writer now wakes in the morning to find himself famous, he must be a soul of great mark and likelihood. No mere Sprats and Pomfrets—no, nor spirits fifty times more richly gifted—will ever again wake to so pleasant a surprise. Knowledge of all sorts is now spreading like wildfire over the earth, and millions are all a-glow with such an earnest activity of intellectual life as the human race has never felt before. There is a very creditable display of taste and feeling and refinement in this little collection of poems, but there is not sufficient energy and originality to give vitality to verse in such days as these.

## VOLUNTEER MOVEMENTS.

On Saturday the annual distribution of the prizes to the successful competitors of the Queen's (Westminster) Corps took place in Westminster Hall. The prizes, which were very numerous, and of considerable value, were presented by Lady Constance Grosvenor, the wife of the colonel of the regiment. Her ladyship delivered a brief but graceful speech.

There was also another interesting volunteer event on Saturday—the second annual inspection, by Colonel M'Murdo, of the Inns of Court Rifles. They executed their movements in a manner which extorted a high eulogy from the inspecting officer.

A public meeting was held on Monday evening in the lecture hall of Taylor's Depository, St. George's-road, Southwark, to further promote the objects and interests of the regiment of Surrey Engineer Volunteers. Mr. A. H. Layard M.P., occupied the chair.

The distribution of prizes to the successful competitors of the 37th Middlesex (G.G.B.) Rifles, took place on Monday evening in the school-room, Endell-street, Bloomsbury.

Prizes were presented on Monday night in Westminster Hall by Earl de Grey to the successful marksmen during the season of the 19th Middlesex Rifles. This corps originated in the Working Men's College, and now consists of ten companies, numbering 750 men, under the command of Col. Bathurst. There were about 500 men in attendance at the ceremony.

They arrived at half-past eight o'clock, accompanied by their band, and halted at the foot of the steps at the end of the hall. They formed three sides of a square, and the fourth side was occupied by a table, at which Earl de Grey and the Countess de Grey sat, and on which were displayed the prizes awarded for distribution. On the arrival of Lord and Lady de Grey the regiment presented arms. Afterwards the ceremony of presenting the prizes took place.

The contest for possession of the Prince of Wales's cup virtually commenced last week among the members of the Cambridge University Rifle Corps, with a view to the selection of six gentlemen as final competitors. The trial contest went on at intervals until it resulted in the following gentleman being chosen, they having made the highest scores:—Mr. Ross (Trinity), champion of Scotland, and ex-champion of England; Mr. Peterkin (Emanuel); Mr. Stratton (Trinity); Mr. Gordon (Trinity); Mr. Marden (John's); and Mr. Guinness (John's). On Monday these gentlemen shot for the final contest, the scores at the close were declared to be as under:

	200	300	500	600		200	300	500	600
Ross.....	17	21	12	9	Gurdon..	13	11	5	6
Peterkin. 22	15	7	7	7	Marsden..	15	7	3	3
Stratton 16	12	11	8	8	Guinness.	14	11	6	7

Mr. Ross was, therefore, declared the winner.

## LONDON SHOP ARCHITECTURE.

EVERY Englishman ought to feel a national pride in the improvement of our streets, however little he might be disposed to endure a system of taxation for that purpose. But our architectural improvements are not, generally speaking, like those of the French, at the cost of the State. In most cases ours are the result of private enterprise. Even Waterloo bridge, which Canova deemed the finest structure of its kind in the world, and which M. Dupin pronounced worthy of Scroffis and the Caesars, was the work of a private company. Every one who has lately passed through the streets of this great city must have observed a growing ambition amongst our traders to vie with each other in the elegance and magnificence of their houses of business. They are thus raising the character of our streets. Even at the corner of Aldgate and the Minories, a quarter of the city by no means remarkable for refinement in the arts, there is a most spacious and lofty edifice, belonging to the well-known firm of E. Moses and Son, that is a most noble specimen of shop architecture, and an example of what may be expected from our largest and wealthiest traders, if the present taste for architectural ornamentation should be properly encouraged. Our principal purpose, in the present notice, is not to dwell on shop architecture generally, but to record a visit that we lately paid to a branch house of the same firm in New Oxford-street, for the purpose of inspecting an ingenious novelty in the form of a large and beautiful revolving window of an octagonal form. It presents to the street passenger the appearance of a quadrangular plate-glass window, with elegant intercolumniations. The pavement in front is inlaid with encaustic tiles, and the two piers are fitted with silvered plate-glass which doubles or

continues the quadrangular colonnade. The revolving glass room—if such it may be called—presents a continually changing aspect as it passes the shop frontage. The whole has a very novel and splendid effect, especially as the various embellishments are peculiarly rich and fanciful, but the correct idea of an ingenious mechanical contrivance of this nature is not easily conveyed by mere description, and must be seen to be appreciated. As far as the spectator can observe, the window seems to realize the conception of "perpetual motion," and hurrying crowds suddenly stop to contemplate it. On going up stairs on the same premises we found a sight almost as interesting as the revolving window. The ceiling of a noble room is of plate glass, and on looking up to it a man might fancy himself with the antipodes, for the street, reflected in the wide mirror, looks like a strange sort of roof on which men and women are walking fly-like. Feet are uppermost, heads downward, and bodies pendulous. The carriages and horses are in a correspondent condition, and as all are rapidly moving to and fro, it is like quite another world or the realisation of a fairy tale.

## THE CATASTROPHE IN EDINBURGH.

DURING the past week search had been kept up for the bodies of David Skirving, cabinet maker, and his wife and daughter, who were all along suspected to be in the ruins, though from no trace of any of them up to that time, the hope began to be entertained that they had been from home at the moment of the disaster. Shortly, however, after resuming work at ten o'clock on Thursday morning, the workmen, on pulling away a piece of flooring immediately under the house occupied by the Skirvings, came upon the body of a woman. It was removed to the police-office, and was shortly afterwards identified by a brother-in-law as the body of Mary Skirving, about twenty-four years of age, and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Skirving. Near the same part of the ruins there was discovered a small box which, among other articles, contained the certificate of the marriage of David Skirving, cabinet maker, Annfield, near Newhaven, and Margaret Bain Skirving, Newhaven, dated October, 1833. About 11.20 on Thursday night, in the north-east corner of the building, about nine feet from the back wall, and four feet below the level of the shop floor, two bodies were found together on a bed partly covered with the bed-clothes. They were removed to the police-office; and, though identification was difficult under the circumstances, no doubt was felt that they were the bodies of David and Mrs. Skirving.

The whole of Friday and Saturday morning, up to about three o'clock, was occupied in the work of clearing the cellars of debris mingled with the goods of Mr. Cairns and Messrs. Brown, with which they were filled. About three o'clock on Saturday morning, the whole of the rubbish and other contents of the cellars having been removed, the labour of the excavators, which had been continued night and day without interruption since the time of the catastrophe, partially ceased, there being no further likelihood or expectation that any more dead bodies would be found in the ruins. About nine o'clock on Friday morning the workmen, on raising some flooring, discovered on a shelf in an open press partly filled with bottles, a small black and white dog. The poor animal was still alive, but appeared to be in the last stage of exhaustion and starvation. It was however, got out, and by good treatment soon recovered. The appearance of the yawning cellars, with the jagged walls rising gaunt and bare above them, is painfully gloomy and desolate, and the feeling of desolation is increased instead of diminished by the dimensions of each room and dwelling being mapped out upon the walls, as far as they remain standing, and by the presence of a few household articles which still hang upon them. The total number of dead bodies taken out of the ruins now amounts to thirty-three, which, with the two who died in the infirmary, makes the total number killed thirty-five. The whole of the bodies, except that of a young woman, have been identified; but as Isabella Mackay, a young woman of about twenty-six years of age, is the only one of those believed to have perished in the ruins who has not been accounted for, it is believed that the body referred to was hers.

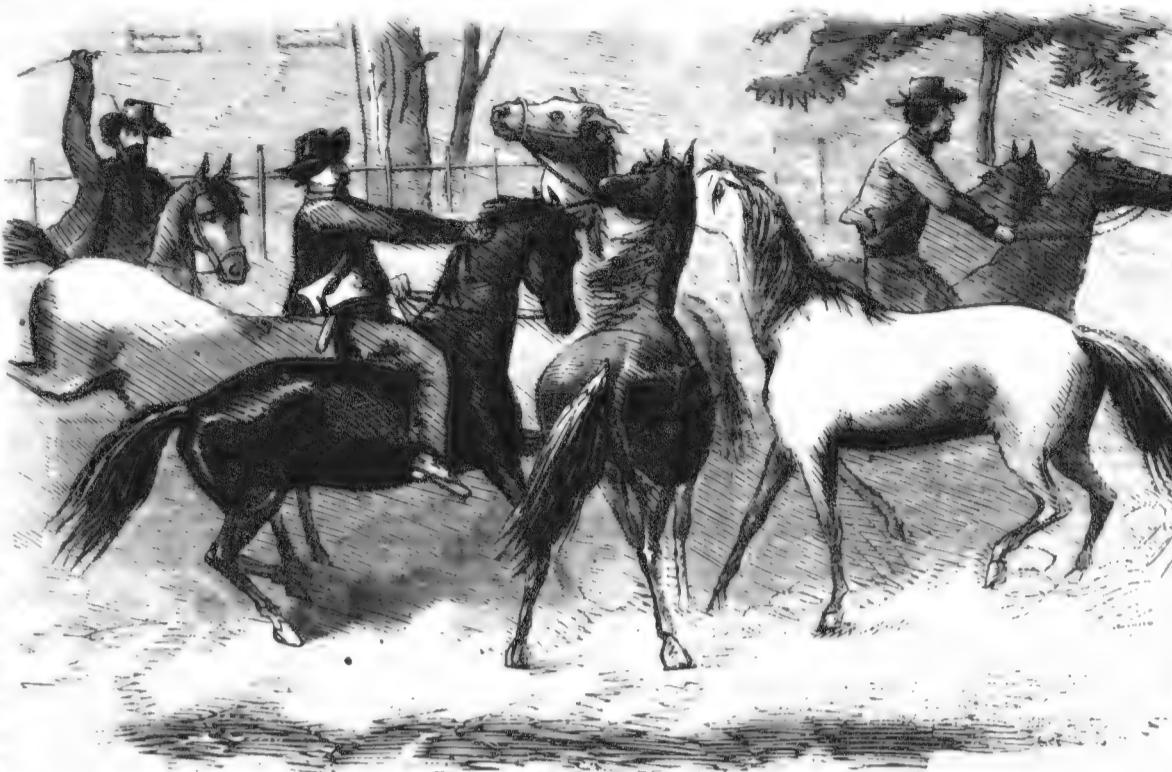
Our engraving, on page 132, gives a good impression of the state of the building immediately after the catastrophe.

A HORRIBLE ITALIAN MURDER—A Turin letter reporting the trial of an extraordinary murderer, one Antonio Boggia, a street porter now under trial at Milan, thus describes him:—"A little man, about 65 years of age, with venerable gray hair, carefully smoothed down on the temples and back of the head, an easy cheerfulness of countenance, an imperturbable calmness of speech, a sparkle, white, neckcloth; the whole outward man would lead you to look upon him as a poor aged wight brought into difficulty by some mistake, or in consequence of some deep-laid calumny. The President asks him by what circumstances he was led to do away with his last victim, the woman Perrochio, 68 years old, who had welcomed him to her house with the most perfect trust. Boggia begins by rubbing his hand, takes his handkerchief out of his pocket, wipes his mouth; then pulls out his snuff-box, takes a good pinch; then, without a wink of the eye, no faltering of the voice, without a glimpse of remorse or compunction, he tells his atrocious tale,—What can I say to you, my Lord President! We were there, all alone; the old woman smiled; a whim or inspiration came upon me. I took up my hatchet and let it go at her head with so good an aim that she did not utter one cry; she was knocked down instantly, and died quite easy. When she lay on the ground, stretched out, I sat down for a quarter of an hour looking at her, and as I looked a fit of laughter seized me. I then went out for a little air, and came back to sleep. On the morrow I cut off the woman's legs, to be able to put her in my basket, (a kind of large basket, with handles, used by street porters in Italy to carry burdens on their shoulders) to make it one job only as I carried her to my cellar. When I had her in my cellar I dug a goodly grave (*una braccia fossa*) along the wall, took out the pieces of the old woman, laid them in the grave very nicely, stretched out, and there was an end to it. 'And Ribbone! What of Ribbone?' asked the court. This Ribbone was an old friend of Boggia's, who lived in the same house—a good man, fond of Boggia's children, who patted them on the head, bought them penny toys, took them out for a walk, and was quite intimate with the family. Boggia asked his friend for the loan of 20 lire. Ribbone promised to try to get them, but Boggia's impatience got the better of him. He found some pretext to decoy his poor friend into the cellar, and as the other stooped he was over him with his formidable hatchet which he had secreted under his cloak, and with one stroke leveled him, stone dead, on the ground. 'But why did you kill him?' 'Simply because he did not procure me the 20 lire I wanted.' On another occasion, after killing one Mazzia, 'he went out of his cellar for a little air,' as he said, and walked along the canals to see the boats loading; then came back at night, dug the usual grave. 'But the grave was not long enough. He doubled up the corpse as best he could, and left it to keep company with the other victim. The trial was adjourned.

SUICIDE.—INTERESTING TO SURGEONS.—On Tuesday, Mr. Herford, city coroner, held an inquest upon a young man, named Robert Turner, late of 14, Stow-street, Upper Renshaw-street, Hulme, who had committed suicide by shooting himself, and whom the jury pronounced "insane" when he committed the rash act. The strange part of the story is, that the man was shot without any external marks of violence being visible. The pistol was not loaded with ball; but, after placing the powder in the weapon, the deceased inserted in the muzzle the pistol key, which had a loop at one end. The discharge of the powder burnt the clothes covering the heart, but the missile only made a slight mark on the flesh, without breaking the skin. Dr. J. D. Ward was sent for and was immediately after the occurrence, but the man was dead before he arrived. A post mortem examination by Dr. Ward showed that through the skin was not broken, the walls of the chest were perforated between the fifth and sixth rib; and although the pericardium, or bag containing the heart, was intact, the left ventricle of the heart itself was ruptured, and the pericardium filled with blood.—*Manchester Examiner*.

THE AMERICAN  
WAR.—BRINGING  
HORSES INTO THE  
FEDERAL CAMP.

The engraving on this page furnishes a graphic representation of a common incident in the Federal camp. The country is, from time to time, scoured for animals for military purposes, and our illustration represents the arrival of a convoy with a number of these high-mettled steeds, for cavalry purposes. At first the Federal army was very deficient in cavalry, but this arm of the service has been gradually strengthened of late, and it now bears a fair proportion to its infantry and artillery. At the present time the Federal Government has about half a million of men in arms, irrespective of the navy, and the Confederates nearly as many more. A million of men in arms in a country that but a few years ago had less than twelve thousand of a military force is a most astounding fact.



THE AMERICAN WAR.—BRINGING HORSES INTO THE FEDERAL CAMP.

THE LATE COL. E. D. BAKER, U. S. SENATOR FOR OREGON.

THIS gallant officer met his death in the recent unfortunate Leesburg affair when charging the Confederates at the head of his men. He was born in England, and emigrated when he was only four years of age, with his parents and a younger brother, to America. They settled in Philadelphia, in which city the subject of our present sketch was educated. He was apprenticed to a weaver when very young, and the loom is now standing where he worked for several years with the steady alacrity characteristic of him. The death of his parents leaving him his own master, he, with his brother, emigrated to Illinois. He was then in his 20th year, possess-

ing a good address, great sagacity, a fair education, and correct principles. With that unaccountable infatuation which possesses so many of our young men, he devoted himself to the law, and studied with such assiduity that he soon became a prominent member of the Illinois Bar. This naturally introduced him to politics, and he had so gained upon the popular will that he was sent to the Legislature, of which he remained for eight years an able and influential member. When the Black Hawk war broke out he offered his services, and went through his first campaign with Mr. Lincoln, whose acquaintance he had made some time before in a lawsuit, where he was the victor. After his return from the Black Hawk campaign, he was sent to Congress, and was fulfilling his duties there when he

took his seat in Washington amid the congratulations of his friends.

When the present conflict became a settled fact, he threw himself heartily into the cause. His speech at the great Union meeting in Washington must be fresh in the readers' minds. He raised a regiment and subsequently a brigade, and was appointed to a Brigadier-General's position, but he preferred to remain Colonel of his favorite California regiment. He was killed at the battle of Leesburg, on the 21st of October. In person Senator Baker was of medium size, and very active. His face was handsome and intelligent. His manners courteous, with a slight dash of the peremptory. Below will be found an engraving of the above incident.



THE AMERICAN WAR.—BATTLE OF LEESBURG, AND DEATH OF COLONEL E. D. BAKER.

Mexican war commenced. He was elected Colonel of one of the seven regiments sent by Illinois, a distinction missed by President Lincoln. He fought bravely through the war, and was so severely wounded at the Rio Grande, that his life was despaired of. He, however, recovered, and after a brief visit to Washington, returned to the seat of war.

When peace was established he undertook to furnish men for the Panama Railroad, which he accomplished, but came back to New York shattered in health. Having regained his strength he went to California, and soon became the first legal practitioner there. His success was remarkable even for that rapid region, and he soon became the leader of the Republican party on the Pacific side. He was a firm friend of Senator Broderick, and his eulogy over his body was full of good feeling eloquently expressed.

In 1859 he went to Oregon and settled in Salem. He was chosen Senator for that State in September, 1860, and

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## LADY ELFRIDA'S POWER.

## CHAPTER XVII.

## MISS FALCONRIDGE'S NARRATIVE.

May 15.—The shock of being told by Mr. Hargraves that Sir Jeffrey Pelton was being slowly poisoned was so great, that I believe I had for some moments no consciousness of things passing about me. So far our misfortunes had appeared passive, and were too lamentably easy to be accounted for. I looked upon them as the visitation of God, and with more or less meekness bowed my head. But *here* was active mischief, and for a few moments, I admit, I was overwhelmed—for a few moments I had fallen back into my old dependent life, and wanted some one to rely upon, but the weakness, for I know I must call it by that name, soon passed away, and I once more became self-reliant, and even desirous of action—of doing something, I knew not what, in order to contend with the unseen enemy.

I had no doubt of Mr. Hargrave's words. It is a most extraordinary truth that not for one moment did I mistrust his statement. I accepted it as one does the earnest words of a candid, deeply-moved child. I felt they were the truth. It being near a fortnight since Mr. Hargraves made this communication, it is difficult distinctly to remember the exact answer I made him, or the order of immediate events, absorbed as that answer, and those events were in the terrible thought of Sir Jeffrey's position; but I think I said, after a few incoherent expressions, "What am I to do, Mr. Hargraves?"

I was quite sure Mr. Hargraves had spoken as he had, because he knew I was wanted for some purpose. Mr. Hargraves was too considerate a man to shock anybody with such horrible information as that he gave me, without having any further reason beyond that of morbid confidence and love of the terrible.

"You must come to Pelton House," he said, and I remember that he smiled as he spoke, in order to reassure me, though at the same time I marked the corners of his mouth twitching in pain.

"For what reason?" I asked.

He came up to me, and taking my hand, he answered, "Constance, don't suppose that I have a bad opinion of all men, because the necessity of the case causes me at the present moment to mistrust every soul about the person of my old friend Sir Jeffrey. I know the majority of men are fairly honest, but it is a mistake when suspicion is circled round a number of men to trust one of them. I know that in all probability there is only one person attempting Sir Jeffrey Pelton's life, but that person is in the household, and till he or she is found out, all the household must be equally suspected. You see I firmly believe all but *one* to be innocent;—till I make the discovery of the criminal—and this I *will* achieve—I must suppose each man or woman I see to be the guilty creature."

"I am quite impatient to know," I returned, "what I am to do."

"Constance," Mr. Hargraves answered, in a grave, sweet

voice, "I am going to talk to you as though you were a man, and not a polished, sensitive lady."

I colored, I know, at this kind compliment, though the next moment I was ashamed of myself for being so selfish. He continued:

"The attempt slowly to poison Sir Jeffrey having commenced before you begin the duties I know you will perform, it is very clear *you* (with a smile) can have no hand in the crime. Then I want that hand (here he took it) to help me find out the enemy. He is in the house—we must find him—or *her*, if this poisoner is a woman.

"A woman!" I said, in a shocked voice.

"My dear child," he returned, gravely, "I am afraid the history of the world tells us there have been quite as many female poisoners as male—if not, indeed, many more."

I suppose I must have looked humiliated, for he immediately added—

"But do not forget that poisoning is the mode which is most available to women who desire to commit murder—this would account for the great number of female poisoners. Poison does not require bodily strength for its administration. You see the argument, do you not?"

I suppose I looked grateful, for I saw Mr. Hargrave's face light up.

"But why are we talking so calmly here, Mr. Hargrave? Why do we not start for Pelton?" I said, impetuously.

"Why," he returned, "I am talking calmly and like a book, so to speak, because I want you to consider your part in this affair just as though you were writing imaginary circumstances



MR. CHARLES MATHEWS "AT HOME."—SEE PAGE 139.

that diary of yours. You must try and act in this business as though you were playing a game of chess—we have clever opponents."

"Who are they?"

"I do not know," Mr. Hargraves returned, I thought a little oddly.

"Who do you think they are?" I asked in my impetuous woman's way.

Mr. Hargraves started back as though I had struck him.

"God forbid," he replied, "that I should name any man or woman. I suspect only, Constance; think for a moment and you will be sorry you asked such a question."

I did think for a moment, and then I did feel that had he mentioned a name I should have felt that the being thus pointed out was the guilty person. "You are right, Mr. Hargraves," I answered, "you always do seem right. It was my love for Sir Jeffrey, and perhaps some curiosity led me astray. But—do, do tell me, without using names, why you think Sir Jeffrey is being slowly assassinated."

The answer Mr. Hargraves gave me was so involved that I did not comprehend it at once. But during many following days we so frequently conversed on the same subject that I am now quite able to put it upon paper. And I cannot help remarking here how thoroughly Mr. Hargraves, within five

minutes of announcing to me the danger Sir Jeffrey was running, had succeeded in causing me to meet the case with a calmness and business-like manner, which would have appeared to me, unaided by his great common-sense, as cold hearted and cruel in the extreme.

He said—or in words to a similar effect—"Murder, I have always considered, and always shall consider, must, to be murder, exhibit great construction, and greater cautiousness on the part of the murderer. Real murder demands that the murderer should have a cause to murder, no matter of what kind, and that he should so carry out his plan that there are more or less chances of the crime never being detected. If the crime is barren of the construction of cause for the taking away of human life, and barren of provision to escape the social consequences of murder, then it, in my opinion, resolves itself into homicide committed in some one of the more, or in all probability less, distinguishable developments of insanity. For instance, if a man shoots another on the first floor of house in which he only rents that first floor, the act cannot be called murder, because as the first construction of concealment of the body is in most cases brutal murder, it is clear that if the homicide has no means of attempting burial, his deed is utterly wanting in that construction upon which depends his salvation from the gallows. On the other

hand if a murderer in thought hires a house, digs a grave on the ground floor, and then inviting his victim shoots him and completes his constructed crime by burying the body, here I find the *murder* to be complete and indisputable.

"Now, in looking at Sir Jeffrey's case, what do you and I find? That he is being carefully assassinated—do not start, no one will go near him till you and I are at his bedside. Being carefully assassinated, we come to the conclusion that the would-be murderer, for we will find him, Constance, is a true would-be murderer, because he has constructed the means of preserving himself from detection. Now, as to cause—cause may be revenge, interest, or compulsion. Sir Jeffrey may have injured some human being, who, in thus revenging himself or herself—may be man or woman; again, it may be interest, whereby the death of the baronet would result in benefit to the poisoner; and, lastly, it may be compulsion, as, for instance, a man being compelled, as the member of a secret society, to do its bidding.

"For my part I totally set aside the supposition that the attempted murder is one of compulsion. Secret assassin societies do not flourish to any great extent in England, except, perhaps, amongst the refugee classes. Then as to the cause being one of revenge, I am disinclined to suppose that Sir Jeffrey Pelton has ever given an unpardonable offence.

He is very rough and cruel in his speech sometimes, but his acts belie his words, and it is the former, not the latter, upon which revenge is founded.

"Yes—I do arrive at the conclusion that this attempt at murder is one of *interest*. You start—do not suppose that by this admission that I have greatly narrowed the circle of *suspects*. By no means. The motive to murder for interest may be very slight. For instance, suppose the case of a debt-laden groom, half mad with drink and despair, who is threatened with a jail and loss of situation thereby, and who knows that he is down in his master's will for £50—this under certain circumstances would be motive sufficient to induce murder. This is no chimera—the crime of murder has been consummated over and over again for an advantage infinitely less than fifty pounds. Nor do I mean the highway murder of a ruffian with a bludgeon and murderous-looking hand—I mean the calm constructive murder of our day and our domestic England.

"It is true that Sir Jeffrey has made no will, and that therefore the inference is that the servants of the household knowing their gain by his continued life is certain—their gain by his death infinitely doubtful, are far more desirous to see him in continued health, than to hear of his death.

"Then we come to consider who would really benefit, by the real state of matters by his death—these are, Constance, Mr. Juan Cintos, and Sir Harold Arnولد. Do not start; I said, when I began this confidence, God forbid I should suspect any man or woman by name. I say so now. I merely mention those two gentlemen because it is a fact that one of them must benefit immensely by Sir Jeffrey's death—immensely. One of them must be the heir—which I know not, I am no lawyer—but I am curious to know how aliens, or foreigners, stand with relation to such property in England. I am told there are difficulties in such questions, and it must not be forgotten that if I am told—any other man may be—for instance, Sir Harold himself.

"You now see the position of the entire matter as well as I do," Mr. Hargraves concluded, "the simple facts are, and stated in so many words their narration seem ridiculous—that 'Sir Jeffrey is being slowly poisoned, and that somebody must be the poisoner.' I suspect no one—and I suspect all. Come with me, Constance, and help me to save my old friend. A woman's hand and watchfulness is necessary—and I can trust no one in Sir Jeffrey's house—can rely upon no one more thoroughly than on you."

I have read the above entry, and am puzzled to believe I have written it—for the statement does not seem that of a woman. Nor is it. The page is but the writing of a lesson Mr. Hargraves taught me. They are almost his own words as they followed each other; and so I have put them on paper—and I am proud to see them there.

Of course I was ready to start with Mr. Hargraves at once; only one difficulty stared me in the face. I did not wish to leave my mother. I spoke to Mr. Hargrave on this subject, of course. He said he would speak with me to mama.

My mother's face lighted up with a beautiful look almost immediately after Mr. Hargraves entered the room, and she immediately began to chat in her old pleasant way. She appreciates Mr. Hargraves' frank way of meeting her. Mama, as I have said, seems to be aware of her calamity without being able to analyse it; and she is strangely alive to the indignity of the patronage which the few who approach her more or less display. For instance, she will not see our old village doctor, Evan Jones. Nor do I wonder at it. He spoke to her as though to a child. I can comprehend there is nothing more unpleasant either to a sick person, or one in mama's unhappy position, than to be patronised and soothed by those who speak to them. Why, I have even noticed our girl Fanny patronise mama in speaking to her. Fanny, the stupidest girl I ever approached, and who never could learn to read—much less write.

Yes, Mr. Hargrave meets mama with such admirable presence of mind, and kind common-sense, that more sympathy naturally seems to exist between them than between mama and myself. I am willing to admit this because Mr. Hargraves is my rival. I would admit it of no other person.

It was astonishing with what rapid willingness mama fell in with Mr. Hargrave's proposal. He wanted me at Pelton for a few days to cheer Sir Jeffrey, who was poorly. My mother at once answered that I had better start directly, and in her old way said that she would tell "our people" to get ready.

Within half an hour I and Mr. Hargraves had left Ravelin. Mama was very happy and cheerful when I said good-bye to her, and when Mr. Hargraves entered her room, of course I promised to ride over every day and give her a quick kiss.

She was at the drawing-room window as we drove down the park-road, and till the distance shut out her dear face I saw it smiling and cheerful.

I was not prepared for the change in Sir Jeffrey Pelton. He looked as though he had been suffering very many weeks. He was lying on a couch when I entered the room, and he put out his hands cheerily when I went up to him; but I felt their grasp had relaxed in their strength. My uncle was in the habit of shaking hands so heartily that some people dreaded the operation. I remember when I was a mere girl (it seems years instead of weeks ago) that I would slip off my rings when I knew Sir Jeffrey was at the door, in order to avoid the pain of having them crushed into my flesh by his hearty greeting. I took his hand as he lay on the sofa, and had I worn rings (which I have not done for a long time now, it seems to me) I am quite sure they would not have hurt me while my hand rested in his broad palm.

"A little shaky," he said; "can't tell what's the matter with me. Never used to be ill; am confounded ill now."

Mr. Juan Cintos, whom I suppose I should call my cousin, was sitting at a little table near Sir Jeffrey, and writing letters.

As he spoke he leant towards the little table before him, and wrote an address upon an envelope, then he wetted the stamp in the usual manner, with his tongue, and fixed it on the letter.

"You see, Constance," my uncle said, after asking after my mother; "I must do something, or I should go mad—; but that's nothing to do with it. You see Juan here can write my letters for me, and in a devilish neat hand; but the name and addresses get over him, so I do that part of the business."

I said a few words to Juan; I know not what, for we had not shown very much liking for each other, and then I said, "What a mass of letters, uncle." There were about fifty lying in a heap, ready for the post.

"Yes," he returned, "all about horses, and betting. Oh, yes, you can bet by post, and when you're lying sick on a sofa, with a young secretary writing for you."

I saw the kind loving look Sir Jeffrey wore on his face as he looked over the heap of letters at the young Spanish gentleman, and I felt glad to think that, perhaps, the nephew was gradually taking the place of the son. All idea, if any had existed in my mind, of Juan being in any way connected with the poisoning of Sir Jeffrey, had passed away. Indeed, Mr. Hargraves not being present, I grieve to say I began to think that he was, perhaps, wrong in his suspicions, and that my uncle's attack was a natural complaint.

"No; Juan can't spell Willoughby, for instance; or Colquhoun, so I write the addresses and finish them off. I think I shall make a ton of money this year, Constance; there trot along to Mrs. Mason, and let Juan and I finish our letters;" and I left the room, promising soon to return.

I heard Sir Jeffrey say to Juan; "Now, sec. (short I suppose for secretary), are you ready to fire away?"

"Yes," I heard Juan answer, and I think I never heard the word so musically uttered; it seemed as though the sound of an Aeolian harp.

It was impossible to associate Mrs. Mason, the housekeeper, with a murderous idea. The widow of a poor clergyman, as so many of her class are, she was almost as much a lady as mama, and all human angry passion seemed past away from that grave face framed in gray hair.

She was speaking anxiously of Sir Jeffrey's illness and minutely describing to me, in the manner so frequent with elderly people, the nature of Sir Jeffrey's attack, and deplored with genuine grief, the apparent agony he endured when a paroxysm overcame him, when Mr. Hargraves knocked at the door. I saw, in a moment, that he had no suspicion of the housekeeper.

Mr. Hargraves immediately went to the very reason of his visit, and acquainted Mrs. Mason that, as far as practicable, I should be my uncle's nurse till he was himself again. I thought Mrs. Mason seemed a little hurt, but she readily yielded her post, and at once began organising a system of "attentions," as she called waiting on Sir Jeffrey.

We had not sat beyond ten minutes when the professional nurse who had been had up from the village to assist Mrs. Mason, came streaming into the room, tumbling over herself, so to speak, in her frightened eagerness. "Moom, moom!" said she—"Sir Jeffrey be took waundrous woose to be sure; *ah canoot tell whatever ails oon*."

Mrs. Mason and I immediately followed the nurse to the room in which I had left the baronet; Juan was not there. He had gone, the nurse afterwards told me, to post the letters himself—a thing which he chose very frequently to do.

My poor dear uncle was terrible to look upon. His forehead was damp with the frightful agony he was enduring.

"I shall never be able to stand this kind of thing much longer," he gasped to Mr. Hargraves. "I feel it will soon be all over with me."

"Now look here, Pelton, I'm going to take you in hand. You have had your way all the while you've been ill. You've done yourself no good. Now I'm going to have mine."

The baronet smiled, though through paroxysm.

"Now, I believe," continued Mr. Hargraves, "you've taken something that does not agree with you? First, you must promise me to put yourself entirely in Miss Falconridge's hands, agreeing to eat or drink nothing which is offered you by any one but her."

"One would fancy I was being poisoned, Hargraves, to hear you talk," said Sir Jeffrey, weakly wiping his forehead. "I promise."

"Bet you won't keep your promise," said Hargraves. "Bet I will," said the baronet, with some emphasis.

Mr. Hargraves smiled.

"Ah," said he, "now you've betted on the event, I'm sure of you. Mind, nor sup nor bite, as they say in these parts, except from Constance here."

During four entire days, I am quite sure my uncle kept his promise—he took food and drink only from my hands. I and Mrs. Mason alone watched him, the nurse from the village having been sent back to it. Mr. Hargraves obtained the services of a great doctor from York (not either of those terrible gentlemen who condemned mama), and this doctor admitted that the symptoms were certainly those of the action of some poisonous substance.

Before leaving, he directed Mr. Hargraves to forward him portions of all the food and drink Sir Jeffrey took, and promised to return at the end of the week, if there was no necessity to be with us again before that time. We sent regularly portions of everything Sir Jeffrey eat—every liquor he drank; and we had no visit from the doctor at an earlier date than that which he himself had fixed.

He arrived, at the end of the week, as he said, to find Sir Jeffrey suffering from a yet more terrible paroxysm than any he had yet endured.

Sir Jeffrey had been mending rapidly from the day of my arrival till the Saturday morning when the doctor paid his second visit. Sir Jeffrey being a strong man, these unaccountable attacks were soon recovered; and on the Saturday morning he was so much better that he announced his intention of "fetching up his correspondence," as he said, in reference to a quantity of letters, which I knew chiefly related to horse-racing matters, and which lay in a great heap on his writing table.

I declare that as usual Mrs. Mason and I had partly eaten and drunk of the breakfast prepared for Sir Jeffrey. He eat and drank very little, less than either I or the housekeeper, and though we felt no bad effects of that meal, at midday my uncle was perfectly prostrate. Dr. Aspinwall immediately asked my uncle what he had been eating. Sir Jeffrey answered, nothing since breakfast, and this statement he maintained.

As I have said he appeared infinitely stronger and healthier than he had been all the week, after his breakfast on this Saturday morning, and yet by twelve he was once more in an agony. He had sat down to his letters—dictating to Juan, and directing and completing those his nephew, who wrote very rapidly, had finished, and had continued at this work till we were called to his assistance by Juan himself.

There was a jug of barley-water standing on the table, and, seeing it, Dr. Aspinwall said, "have you been drinking any of this barley-water, Sir Jeffrey?"

"No," my uncle returned petulantly, "or I should have lost

my bet with you, Hargraves—Juan has been drinking it, I believe."

"Yes," said my cousin.

Dr. Aspinwall, Mr. Hargraves and I had a consultation that morning, at which Juan desired to be present, but Dr. Aspinwall objected to his presence, as indeed he did to mine, till Mr. Hargraves kindly desired that I should not be excluded.

Dr. Aspinwall seemed a deep, clear-thinking man who wasted no time in words.

He said, "I confess candidly that Sir Jeffrey Pelton's case is beyond my experience—I admit this to you. Let this admission go no further. He has every symptom of a poison man, and yet I can find not even a microscopic trace of poison, either in the food you have sent me, or in any of the other examinations I have made in this case. I have taken Sir Jeffrey's handkerchief (without letting him know it), and stained as it is by blood and otherwise, I will submit it to the very highest analytical chemist of the day. I feel sure, however, that he will discover no trace of poison."

"Then, if I understand you rightly," said Mr. Hargraves, "Sir Jeffrey Pelton is being poisoned, yet no poison can be traced as having been taken into his system. May I ask pray do not trouble Constance—if Sir Jeffrey died, what your return of cause of death would be?"

"Natural causes, I may say to you," the doctor returned, "though I need not tell you I should not use those words in the certificate. But they serve to answer your question. The doctor's experience tells him that it is illegal and unjust to say a man dies of poison if poison cannot be traced. An administered poison must have substance. If that substance, with all the appliances of modern science, cannot be found, it is impossible to say that it is present, which would actually be asserted if a return were made of death by poison when no trace of poison could be found."

"Then," said Mr. Hargraves, "this is the position of affairs. This gentleman, according to your belief, is suffering from poison, and yet if he were to die you would not return a certificate in accordance with that belief."

"You have a bluff way of putting things," said the doctor, "but I fear that is very much like the truth of it. Sir Jeffrey's symptoms are those of poison, yet no poison can I find. I am convinced I should discover no poison by a *post mortem* examination. Miss Falconridge will pardon my speaking so plainly.

"Do you think," said Mr. Hargraves, "that the symptoms of poisoning may be produced by a something totally apart from poison—say, for instance, mental effort while the body was weak?"

"It is impossible," Dr. Aspinwall returned, "to speak with certainty on such a point—but it is a good idea on your part. What was Sir Jeffrey doing when seized?"

"Writing and directing letters," I replied.

"Then I will request him not to write again till I see him once more. I may say there is no time to be lost—these repeated attacks are weakening—each attack will be resisted less and less until in the end the baronet will die of sheer exhaustion and weakness. I will bring another medical man with me on Tuesday, or Wednesday—meanwhile telegraph to me if there is another attack."

Dr. Aspinwall returned to Sir Jeffrey's room before he left, and obtained the promise from him not to write till he saw Dr. Aspinwall again.

That same evening the old post-boy, Fred, of our town of Ravelin, came rattling up to the castle with a clumsy letter from our maid, Fanny. It was a queer epistle—but yet terrible. My maid told me in a few words that since I had been home (I had ridden over to Ravelin every morning between breakfast and dinner except the Saturday,) mama, who had been quite cheerful throughout the week had fallen back, and thinking like, as Fanny explained it.

A few words to Hargraves—I can't put Mr. before his name this time—and I was upon my horse, or rather the creature which at Pelton has always been called mine; and I was tearing along the road homewards. I did not feel panic-stricken, or frightened, at having to fly from the bedside of Sir Jeffrey, whom I might surely suppose was actually dying by poison, to the side of my dear afflicted mother. What could have changed her once more so rapidly?

I had not been home five minutes when I learnt the cause—Elfrida. Elfrida had been here. I could get no explanation from mama at first. She only looked at me as though I were a great way off, and smiled in the most wan and heartbreaking manner.

But most unaccountably and singularly this terrible dependency and intrenchment within herself, as it were, suddenly gave way. In an agony of grief I said, "Dear mama, do you not know me?" and as I spoke I ran forward, and in so doing overthrew a heavy bronze vase on the buffet upon which mama's right hand was resting. It fell with terrible weight upon mama's hand.

I cried out with affright, as did my mother with pain. But what followed was very singular. My mother put her hand to her mouth, as her face grew crimson, with pain as I thought, and then, as though suddenly awakening from a deep sleep she said, "Constance dear, is that you?" and in a moment I was in her arms. She knew me once more, and continued to know me.

I should not, perhaps, have narrated this accident of the bronze vase, but for this *fact*. When I mentioned it to Mr. Hargraves he started, and suddenly put his two hands upon my arm as it lay on the table. The movement seemed a warning, a confidence, a sympathy, I am convinced. Yes, I am convinced by his earnest look that he considered the accident a great significance.

I asked my mother at once what had caused her to be so unhappy. With a simplicity which was most touching in its reliance, my mother answered, "I was watching the way you had gone from the window when I felt a touch upon my shoulder. I turned and it was Elfrida. It was evening, my dear, but she seemed to shine in diamonds, though not being married I wonder she ventures to wear them. Elfrida, I said, whereupon she answered, Constance, "And who told you it was Elfrida?" It was quite clear to me, though I was wretched, my dear, dear mama continued, "and far away from everybody, till you came to me just now, I don't think I knew you at first. But I do now. I do now."

Here my poor martyr took me in her arms, and then it was that I found her hand had been cut by one of the sharp edges of the bronze *trazz*.

(To be continued in our next.)

## LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

ITALY.—The debate in the Italian Chamber upon the Roman and Neapolitan questions, has not, so far as we have heard up to this time, yet developed any very important feature. It is likely, however, to occupy several sittings more; and M. Ratazzi, intended to take part in the discussion, has arranged to vacate the President's chair for the time, which, singularly enough, will be occupied by a member who is a refugee from Venice. Baron Ricasoli will probably tender his resignation after the debate has closed: but this step is only expected to lead to a reconstruction of the Cabinet—Ricasoli to retain the Premier's place, and Ratazzi to accept office. The news from the province now infested by brigands, still tells of outrage and murder; and letters to hand from quite reliable authority, state, that supplies of men, money, and arms, are being at present forwarded, chiefly by a French Legitimist committee established at Marseilles, who think of Francis II. a central figure and rallying point of legitimacy in general, and plot to convert the Neapolitan province into another Vendée.

AUSTRIA.—The demolition by the Austrian troops of the batteries which the Herzegovian insurgents had erected upon the military road to Ragusa had been effected, a telegram announces, without any resistance on the part of the insurgents. We are glad to be able to add that the same telegram announces the return of the Austrian troops to their own territory; and the movement which a few days ago was heralded as the beginning of events which would set half Europe in a flame, has, we hope, come thus quietly to a prompt conclusion.

BELGIUM.—The fire which has just raged at Antwerp appears to have destroyed a vast amount of property. The ships in the basin luckily succeeded in getting out before the flames reached any of them. Unfortunately, however, a considerable loss of life is reported. At least seven or eight persons—some accounts say many more—have perished in striving to extinguish the conflagration.

## MR. BRIGHT ON THE AMERICAN WAR.

On Monday evening Mr. Bright addressed a very interesting meeting of the Working Men's Educational Institute at Rochdale. The hon. gentleman, who presented the prizes, delivered an interesting and familiar speech on popular education, pointing out the kind of knowledge which was likely to render the most substantial service to the youth of both sexes, and urging them also to take an interest as citizens in the public affairs of their country. He spoke in terms of admiration of the reading-room and library connected with the great local Co-operative Society; and also touched upon the war in America, remarking that the evil results of the stoppage of our supply of cotton afforded an example of the mischief resulting from a want of forethought and instruction.

On the following evening Mr. Bright was entertained at a banquet by his fellow-townsmen, at the Rochdale Public Hall. There were about 250 gentlemen present, amongst whom were Mr. Bazley, M.P., George Wilson, and the Mayor of Manchester. The galleries were occupied by ladies.

After a general glance at the American struggle and its originating causes, in what a stranger defended the conduct of the Northerns, he went into the subject now engaging general attention. The seizure of the Confederate Commissioners, he considered both impolitic and bad, but it may turn out to be wholly unauthorised by the American Government, and in this case there is no doubt they would make ample reparation. No Government had evinced a greater desire to be guided by wise and moderate counsels in the construction of cases under the maritime law. It is said this is only one of a series of acts showing ill-will on the part of the North. There will be irritating accidents in the course of this struggle. Let us be calm. Recollect how we were dragged into the Russian war. We drifted into it. It cost 100 million pounds—it cost the lives of forty thousand Englishmen—it injured our trade—it doubled the armies of Europe, and it did not accomplish a single thing that was promised. Statesmen now said, in exculpation, "What could we do in the frenzy of the public mind at that time?" Don't let them add to the frenzy, and don't let us be driven.

Mr. Bright then read an extract from General Scott's letter, which was loudly cheered, and concluded by reminding the meeting of the large number of English people who have emigrated during the last fifteen years to the States. Only misrepresentation, the most gross calumny, or the most wicked, can involve in a war a people with such close ties. In a few years the 20 million free men in the North will be 80 millions, or even 60 millions. He prayed it might not be said among them, that in their darkest hour of need the English people, from whom they sprang, had looked with icy coldness on the trials and sufferings of their terrible struggle. Mr. Bright resumed his seat amid loud and continued cheering, and the meeting shortly afterwards broke up.

Mr. Howe, the Prime Minister of Nova Scotia, and Mr. Tilley, who occupies a similar office in New Brunswick, have delivered addresses on the present state of affairs in America, at Ashton-under-Lyne. Mr. Howe especially gave expression to decidedly anti-Federal views of the American war, and represented that public opinion in the colonies had turned in the same direction, because the Northerners had threatened to compensate themselves for the loss of the South by annexation of British territory.

GENERAL SCOTT ON THE CRISIS.—This distinguished officer in a letter addressed to a gentleman in this country, just published, holds out the assurance that the matter of the seizure of the Confederate Commissioners will be settled without an appeal to war. He further states that the American Government could not have given any instructions to Captain Wilkes that could lead to the outrage.

PROHIBITION OF THE EXPORTATION OF ARMS.—A London *Gazette Extraordinary* was published on Wednesday night, containing a Royal Proclamation, forbidding the exportation from the United Kingdom of arms, ammunition, and military stores of all kinds. An order in Council prohibits the exportation of the same *matériel* of war from the Islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, and Sark, and the Isle of Man, except by license of the governors of those islands.

There is, after all, some prospect of a contest in Finsbury. Mr. Cox addressed a meeting of his old constituents in the Cowper-street School-room on Wednesday night. A resolution in favour of the hon. gentleman's candidature was adopted unanimously, and he said he should give the electors other opportunities of expressing their opinions.

THE WINDHAM CASE.—An important motion has just been made before Vice-Chancellor Wood, having reference to the marriage of Mr. Windham, the young man against whom proceedings in lunacy are pending. The terms of the motion were, that Mrs. Windham, formerly Ann Rogers, and Mr. May, a solicitor, should be adjudged guilty for contempt of the court, for having abetted the marriage of Mr. Windham and the preparation of his marriage settlements while he was yet a minor, and without having obtained the sanction either of his guardian or the Court of Chancery. The Vice-Chancellor reviewed the facts of the case at great length, and while declining to accede to the application as it regarded Mr. May, he made some strong observations on that gentleman's conduct in the transaction, and left him to pay his own costs. We gather that after this decision the proceedings against Mr. Windham will be dropped.

ALDERSGATE WARD.—Sir Peter Laurie died on Wednesday. A vacancy of alderman, therefore, occurs in this ward, and among those mentioned as likely to be chosen as his successor is Mr. ex-Sheriff Lusk.

DESTRUCTION OF AN AMERICAN SHIP BY FIRE.—The ship Lady Franklin, Captain Jordan, 1,280 tons, from London, in ballast, for New York, belonging to Messrs. S. Thompson and Nephew, of that city, anchored in Plymouth Sound on Tuesday, ostensibly to inquire the whereabouts of the Confederate war-steamship Nashville. At midnight a fire broke out in her fore hold, and she was removed to Jenny Cliff Bay. She was scuttled, several holes having been cut in her port side and bow, and the revenue cutter Hamilton having fired three six-pounds into her. It is strongly suspected that the ship was fired purposely by the crew. Seven were sent on Tuesday into the fore peak, where there was a quantity of damage and lumber, and eight absconded early yesterday morning. The spirit-room had been broken into, and one man, in a state of intoxication, was dragged into, and his berth just in time to prevent him from being dragged out.

DOUBLE MURDER ON THE HIGH SEAS.—From information received by the American Consul at Cardiff, the superintendent of police, with an effective staff of constables, required to the West Bute Dock at an early hour on Tuesday morning to await the arrival of an American ship, Pleiades, on which a horrible murder had been reported. Thousands were present to await the arrival of the ship, and the police had no easy task to accomplish to keep the crowd in order. About ten o'clock the long-looked-for vessel came at last, and eight foreigners (Italians, Americans, Germans, and Austrians), who composed the crew, were immediately arrested. Their names were Peter Storey, Peter Murray, Joseph Jucyone, Martin Sando, Perito Salas, Joseph Imau, and Peter Sanga. From the captain of the Pleiades the following particulars were gleaned: It appears that, for some considerable time, the crew had manifested very bitter feelings against the mate of the ship for his repeated hard conduct towards the men, and accordingly it had at length been decided in council to murder him on a favourable opportunity presenting itself. The 12th of last month proved the fatal day, not only for him but for another poor fellow, who is supposed to have been an unwilling accomplice. The mate went, as usual, at an early hour in the morning to call the men from their sleeping apartments, when he was immediately attacked with staves, knives, and other murderous weapons. The captain, hearing the noise rushed on deck and fired on the men, and then, by persuasion and force combined, succeeded in rescuing the victim, but the injuries were of so severe a character to give the rescuer any faith in entertaining the slightest hopes of his recovery. The mate's body presented a frightfully mangled appearance, and the wounds caused him the greatest agony. He lingered for a few hours when death put an end to his sufferings. The other poor fellow, who acted as interpreter, was dispatched into the ocean with little or no ceremony—at least, so the captain supposes, for he missed him without seeing any struggle or hearing any disturbance. The villains, however, were not content to stop in the execution of their deadly work of causing the death of two, but they afterwards attacked a third mate, upon whom, however, they determined to exercise a little mercy, and he was subject to no further mortification after having received severe wounds on his left arm. The captain, who appears to have enjoyed the general confidence of the crew, was not hurt. The prisoners are at present confined in the Cardiff gaol, awaiting the arrangements of the American Consul to transfer them to the American police authorities for the administration of the laws of that country.

Mr. Bright then read an extract from General Scott's letter, which was loudly cheered, and concluded by reminding the meeting of the large number of English people who have emigrated during the last fifteen years to the States. Only misrepresentation, the most gross calumny, or the most wicked, can involve in a war a people with such close ties. In a few years the 20 million free men in the North will be 80 millions, or even 60 millions. He prayed it might not be said among them, that in their darkest hour of need the English people, from whom they sprang, had looked with icy coldness on the trials and sufferings of their terrible struggle. Mr. Bright resumed his seat amid loud and continued cheering, and the meeting shortly afterwards broke up.

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